

IUMANE SLAUGHTER

HEARINGS
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LIVESTOCK AND FEED GRAINS
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
EIGHTY-FIFTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION

ON

H. R. 176, H. R. 2880, H. R. 3029, H. R. 3049, H. R. 5671, H. R. 5820,
H. R. 6422, AND H. R. 6500

APRIL 2 AND 12, 1957

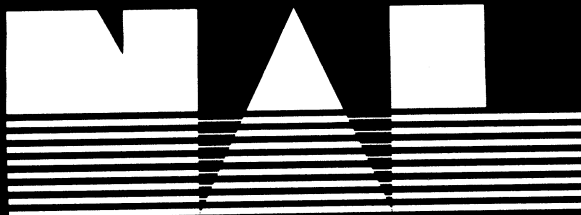
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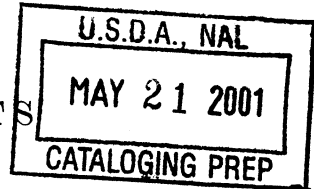
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CONTENTS



H. R. 176, a bill to require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes-----	1
H. R. 2880, a bill to require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes-----	2
H. R. 3029, a bill to require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce and for other purposes-----	3
H. R. 3049, a bill to require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes-----	4
H. R. 5671, a bill to require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce and for other purposes-----	4
H. R. 5820, a bill to promote the development and use of improved methods for the humane handling, transporting, and slaughtering of livestock and poultry in interstate and foreign commerce-----	5
H. R. 6422, a bill to require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce and for other purposes-----	6
H. R. 6509, a bill to require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes-----	7
Statement of—	
Aaberg, Herman C., president of Livestock Conservation, Inc., Chicago, Ill-----	143
Anthony, D. J., MRCVS, DVSM, FRSH, chief, veterinary officer, Brierley Hill, at the Marsh & Baxter headquarters plant, Staffordshire, England-----	61
Babcock, Dr. Myra, Pleasant Ridge, Mich-----	48
Barner, Dr. Ralph D., professor of veterinary pathology, College of Veterinary Medicine, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich-----	30
Bemelmans, Madeleine, Society for Animal Protective Legislation, New York, N. Y-----	50
Buttrick, Carlton E., president of the Animal Rescue League of Boston and an officer and director of New England Livestock Conservation, Inc-----	18, 22
✓ Clarkson, Dr. M. R., deputy administrator, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture; accompanied by Dr. A. R. Miller, director, Meat Inspection Division, United States Department of Agriculture-----	9, 132
Caybaugh, Mrs. Blair F., president of the Humane Society of Harrisburg, Pa., and president of the Federated Humane Societies of Pennsylvania-----	21
Dorn, Hon. W. J. Bryan, a Representative in Congress from the State of South Carolina-----	66
Dawson, Hon. William A., a Representative in Congress from the State of Utah-----	122
Gesell, Mrs. Robert, Animal Welfare Institute, New York, N. Y-----	51
Greenwald, David H., counsel, American Federation of Retail Kosher Butchers, Inc-----	107
Griffiths, Hon. Martha W., a Representative in Congress from the 17th Congressional District of the State of Michigan-----	8, 129

Statement of—Continued

Page

Hanfield, Raymond J., executive assistant, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, New York, N. Y.	21
Hestand, Hon. Edgar W., a Representative in Congress from California	128
Holway, Frances A., Washington, D. C.	81
Humane Society of the United States	145
Johnson, Clifton E., of the Michigan Humane Society, Detroit, Mich.	18
Johnson, Reuben, assistant coordinator of legislative service, National Farmers Union	90
Kearney, Paul W., Brooklyn, N. Y.	57
La Roe, Wilbur, Jr., general counsel for the National Independent Meat Packers Association	88
Lewin, Rabbi Isaac, member of the executive committee of the Union of orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada, and professor at Yeshiva University, New York; accompanied by Rabbi Pincas Teitz	35
Liljenquist, L. Blaine, Washington representative, Western States Meat Packers Association, Inc., Washington, D. C.	110
Macfarlane, John C., director, livestock conservation department of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.	26, 145
Mayer, Arnold, public relations director and Washington staff member of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, AFL-CIO; accompanied by Larkin Birmingham, business agent, local 149, Baltimore, Md.	59
Milburn, G. R. "Jack," Grassrange, Mont., first vice president and chairman, legislative committee, American National Cattlemen's Association	33
Miller, Hon. George P., a Representative in Congress from the Eighth District of California	125
Morgan, Jo V., Jr., attorney, the American Humane Association	15
Myers, Fred, executive director, the Humane Society of the United States, Washington, D. C.	67
Naramore, C. Raymond, vice president and executive director of the Humane Society of Rochester and Monroe County, N. Y., a member of the board of directors of the American Humane Association and chairman of the AHA committee on awards for humane slaughtering.	17
Neuberger, Senator Richard L., of Oregon	119
Perkins, Helen N., president of the Richmond Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Richmond, Va.	21
Pfeffer, Leo, attorney, New York, N. Y.	34
Phillips, Rutherford T., executive director of the American Humane Association	23
Phillips, William T., operative manager of the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	19
Prout, Mrs. R. I. C., president of the General Federation of Women's Clubs	77
Regensburger, R. W., of Swift & Co., appearing for the American Meat Institute; accompanied by Alec P. Davies	92
Sargent, Miss Virginia W., Animal Protective Association	80
Shaffer, J. J., managing director of the Anticruelty Society of Chicago	19
Stevens, Mrs. Christine, president, Animal Welfare Institute	52
Additional data submitted to the subcommittee by—	
Holway, Mrs. Frances A., Washington, D. C.:	
A letter from a United States Government inspector in a slaughterhouse to the National Humane Society (and to you)	86
Poage, Hon. W. R.:	
American Farm Bureau Federation, Washington, D. C., letter of April 1, 1957	92
American Veterinary Medical Association, telegram of May 1, 1957	146
Humanness of producing unconsciousness in pigs with CO ₂	56

HUMANE SLAUGHTER

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1957

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMODITY SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK AND FEED
GRAINS OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, D. C.

The subcommittee met pursuant to notice at 10:10 a. m., in room 1310, New House Office Building, Hon. W. R. Poage (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Poage (chairman of the subcommittee), Albert, Jennings, Matthews, Hill, and Harvey.

Also present: Representatives Abernethy, Polk, Gathings, Jones, Thompson, Johnson, Dague, McIntire, Dixon, Krueger and Teague (California); Devereux, Cooley, and Mrs. Griffiths.

John Heimbürger, counsel.

Mr. POAGE. The committee will please come to order.

We are here this morning to consider various humane bills that are before us. We have a number of bills, some of which possibly are duplicates.

(The bills are as follows:)

[H. R. 176, 85th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, as used in this Act—

(a) The term "commerce" means commerce (1) among the several States or with foreign nations, (2) in any Territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia, (3) between any such Territory and another, (4) between any such Territory and any State or foreign nation, or (5) between the District of Columbia and any State, Territory, or foreign nation;

(b) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture;

(c) The term "person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association;

(d) The term "slaughterer" means any person regularly engaged in the business of (1) purchasing livestock or poultry in commerce for purposes of slaughter or (2) slaughtering livestock or poultry for the sale in commerce of meat, meat products, poultry, or poultry products;

(e) The term "livestock" means cattle, sheep, swine, and any other animal susceptible of use for the preparation of meat or meat products; and

(f) The terms "packer" and "stockyard" shall have the same meaning as when used in the Packers and Stockyards Act (7 U. S. C. 191, 202).

SEC. 2. (a) No slaughterer shall hoist, cut, scald, skin, bleed, or slaughter any livestock unless such livestock has first been rendered insensible by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane.

(b) No slaughterer shall bleed or slaughter any poultry unless such poultry has first been rendered insensible by the severing of the head from the body, or by any electrical or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane.

(c) The requirements of this section shall not apply to any individual slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any established religious faith.

SEC. Any person who by any act or omission violates any provision of section 2 or section 3 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 4. (a) The Secretary shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry this Act into effect.

(b) The Secretary shall appoint an advisory committee composed of four members, of whom one shall be an officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture designated by the Secretary, one shall be chosen from slaughterers, one shall be a representative of the organized trade-union movement engaged in packinghouse work, and one shall be an officer of the National Humane Society or the American Humane Association. Such committee shall advise the Secretary concerning questions arising in the administration of this Act. The member who is an officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture shall receive no additional compensation for service rendered under this Act. Other members shall be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in this service, as the Secretary shall prescribe.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect on the date two years after the date of enactment of this Act. Upon a showing of good cause and upon the recommendation of the committee established under section 4, the Secretary may by order exempt any person from compliance with any provision of this Act for any such period of time, not exceeding five years after enactment, as the Secretary shall determine to be reasonable.

[H. R. 2880, 85th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, as used in this Act—

(a) The term "commerce" means commerce (1) among the several States or with foreign nations, (2) in any Territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia, (3) between any such Territory and another, (4) between any such Territory and any State or foreign nation, or (5) between the District of Columbia and any State, Territory, or foreign nation;

(b) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture;

(c) The term "person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association;

(d) The term "slaughterer" means any person regularly engaged in the business of (1) purchasing livestock or poultry in commerce for purposes of slaughter or (2) slaughtering livestock or poultry for the sale in commerce of meat, meat products, poultry, or poultry products;

(e) The term "livestock" means cattle, sheep, swine, and any other animal susceptible of use for the preparation of meat or meat products; and

(f) The terms "packer" and "stockyard" shall have the same meaning as when used in the Packers and Stockyards Act (7 U. S. C. 191, 202).

SEC. 2. (a) No slaughterer shall hoist, cut, scald, skin, bleed or slaughter any livestock unless such livestock has first been rendered insensible by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane.

(b) No slaughterer shall bleed or slaughter any poultry unless such poultry has first been rendered insensible by the severing of the head from the body, or by any electrical or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane.

(c) The requirements of this section shall not apply to any individual slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any established religious faith.

SEC. 3. Any person who by any act or omission violates any provision of section 2 or section 3 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 4. (a) The Secretary shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry this Act into effect.

(b) The Secretary shall appoint an advisory committee composed of four members, of whom one shall be an officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture designated by the Secretary, one shall be chosen from slaughterers, one shall be a representative of the organized trade-union movement engaged in packinghouse work, and one shall be an officer of the National Humane Society or the American Humane Association. Such committee shall advise the Secretary concerning questions arising in the administration of this Act. The member who is an officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture shall receive no additional compensation for service rendered under this Act. Other members shall be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in this service, as the Secretary shall prescribe.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect on the date two years after the date of enactment of this Act. Upon a showing of good cause and upon the recommendation of the committee established under section 4, the Secretary may by order exempt any person from compliance with any provision of this Act for any such period of time, not exceeding five years after enactment, as the Secretary shall determine to be reasonable.

[H. R. 3029, 85th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, as used in this Act—

(a) The term "commerce" means commerce (1) among the several States or with foreign nations, (2) in any Territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia, (3) between any such Territory and another, (4) between any such Territory and any State or foreign nation, or (5) between the District of Columbia and any State, Territory, or foreign nation;

(b) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture;

(c) The term "person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, or association;

(d) The term "slaughterer" means any person regularly engaged in the business of (1) purchasing livestock or poultry in commerce for purposes of slaughter or (2) slaughtering livestock or poultry for the sale in commerce of meat, meat products, poultry or poultry products;

(e) The term "livestock" means cattle, sheep, swine, horses, and other animals susceptible of use for the preparation of meat or meat products;

(f) The terms "packer" and "stockyard" shall have the same meaning as when used in the Packers and Stockyards Act (7 U. S. C. 191, 202);

(g) The term "approved method" of slaughtering shall mean any of the following:

(1) In the case of livestock, rendering such livestock insensible before bleeding or slaughtering, by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane;

(2) In the case of poultry, instantaneous severing of the head from the body or, if poultry is otherwise cut or stuck by first rendering such poultry insensible by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane;

(3) Slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any religious faith.

SEC. 2. (a) Livestock and poultry shall be slaughtered by an approved method.

(b) Livestock and poultry shall not be shackled, hoisted, cast, or otherwise brought into position for slaughter by any method that causes pain to the animals or fowl.

SEC. 3. Any person who by any act or omission violates any provision of section 2 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 4. The Secretary shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry this Act into effect.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect on the date two years after the date of enactment. Upon a showing of good cause the Secretary may by order exempt any person from compliance with any provision of this Act for an additional period not to exceed one year.

[H. R. 3049, 85th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, as used in this Act—

(a) The term "commerce" means commerce (1) among the several States or with foreign nations, (2) in any Territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia, (3) between any such Territory and another, (4) between any such Territory and any State or foreign nation, or (5) between the District of Columbia and any State, Territory, or foreign nation;

(b) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture;

(c) The term "person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, or association;

(d) The term "slaughterer" means any person regularly engaged in the business of (1) purchasing livestock or poultry in commerce for purposes of slaughter or (2) slaughtering livestock or poultry for the sale in commerce of meat, meat products, poultry, or poultry products; and

(e) The term "livestock" means cattle, sheep, swine, and any other animal susceptible of use for the preparation of meat or meat products.

SEC. 2. That the Congress finds that the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry prevents needless suffering; results in safer and better working conditions for persons engaged in the slaughtering industry; brings about improvement of products and economy in slaughtering operations; and produces other benefits for producers, processors, and consumers which tend to increase the orderly flow of livestock and poultry and their products in interstate and foreign commerce. It is therefore declared to be the policy of Congress that livestock and poultry shall hereafter be slaughtered only by humane methods.

SEC. 3. No slaughterer shall bleed or slaughter any livestock or poultry except by a humane method of slaughtering.

The term "humane method of slaughtering" shall mean either of the following:

(a) In the case of livestock, the rendering insensible of such livestock before bleeding or slaughtering, by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane.

(b) In the case of poultry, the rendering insensible of such poultry, before bleeding or slaughtering, by the severing of the head from the body, or by any electrical or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane: *Provided, however*, That nothing in this Act shall prohibit slaughtering in accordance with the practices and requirements of the Jewish religious faith by a qualified slaughterer, commonly called a shohet, authorized to engage in such slaughtering by an ordained rabbi of the Jewish religious faith.

SEC. 4. Shackling, hoisting, or otherwise bringing livestock and poultry into position for slaughter by any method that causes injury or pain is prohibited.

SEC. 5. Any person who by any act or omission violates any provision of section 2, section 3, or section 4, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000 or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 6. The Secretary shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry this Act into effect.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect on the date two years after the date of enactment of this Act. Upon a showing of good cause, the Secretary may by order exempt any person from compliance with any provision of this Act for such period of time as the Secretary shall determine to be reasonable, not to exceed one year, or, when extensive construction is required to comply with the provisions of the law in the use of certain methods of producing unconsciousness in livestock and poultry, not to exceed two years.

[H. R. 5671, 85th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, as used in this Act—

(a) The term "commerce" means commerce (1) among the several States or with foreign nations, (2) in any territory of the United States or in the District

of Columbia, (3) between any such Territory and another, (4) between any such Territory and any State or foreign nation, or (5) between the District of Columbia and any State, Territory, or foreign nation;

(b) The term "secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture;

(c) The term "person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, or association;

(d) The term "slaughterer" means any person regularly engaged in the business of (1) purchasing livestock or poultry in commerce for purposes of slaughter or (2) slaughtering livestock or poultry for the sale in commerce of meat, meat products, poultry or poultry products;

(e) The term "livestock" means cattle, sheep, swine, horses, and other animals susceptible of use for the preparation of meat or meat products;

(f) The terms "packer" and "stockyard" shall have the same meaning as when used in the Packers and Stockyards Act (7 U. S. C. 191, 202);

(g) The term "approved method" of slaughtering shall mean any of the following:

(1) In the case of livestock, rendering such livestock insensible before bleeding or slaughtering, by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane;

(2) In the case of poultry, instantaneous severing of the head from the body or, if poultry is otherwise cut or stuck by first rendering such poultry insensible by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane;

(3) Slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any religious faith.

SEC. 2. (a) Livestock and poultry shall be slaughtered by an approved method.

(b) Livestock and poultry shall not be shackled, hoisted, cast, or otherwise brought into position for slaughter by any method that causes pain to the animals or fowl.

SEC. 3. Any person who by any act or omission violates any provision of section 2 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 4. The Secretary shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry this Act into effect.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect on the date two years after the date of enactment. Upon a showing of good cause the Secretary may by order exempt any person from compliance with any provision of this Act for an additional period not to exceed one year.

[H. R. 5820, 85th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To promote the development and use of improved methods for the humane handling, transporting, and slaughtering of livestock and poultry in interstate and foreign commerce

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress finds that the use of humane methods in the handling, transporting, and slaughtering of livestock and poultry prevents needless suffering; brings about improvement of products; and produces other benefits for producers, processors, and consumers which tend to expedite the orderly flow of livestock and poultry and their products in interstate and foreign commerce. It is therefore declared to be the policy of Congress to provide for study and research to develop improved methods of handling, transporting, and slaughtering, and to encourage acceptance and use of such methods to the end that livestock and poultry shall be handled, transported, and slaughtered only by humane methods.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to conduct, assist, and foster research, investigation, and experimentation to develop and to encourage the adoption of improved methods of handling, transporting, and slaughtering livestock and poultry.

SEC. 3. To assist in implementing the provisions of section 2, the Secretary is authorized to establish an advisory committee. The functions of the advisory committee shall be to consult with the Secretary and other appropriate officials of the Department of Agriculture and to make recommendations relative to (a) the research authorized in section 2; and (b) obtaining the cooperation of the public, producers, farm organizations, industry groups, humane associations, and Federal and State agencies in the furtherance of such research and the

adoption of improved methods. The chairman of the committee shall be an official of the Department of Agriculture designated by the Secretary. The committee shall consist of not more than eight members other than the chairman and shall be appointed by the Secretary and shall include representatives of (a) the public, including groups concerned with humane handling of animals, (b) producer and industry groups, and (c) scientific and professional groups. The committee shall meet at the call of the Secretary or his designee. Committee members other than the chairman shall not be deemed to be employees of the United States and are not entitled to compensation, but the Secretary is authorized to allow their travel and subsistence expenses necessary in connection with their attendance at meetings called by him or his designee for the purpose of this section.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture shall report to the Congress on January 1, 1959, and annually thereafter concerning actions taken pursuant to this Act.

SEC. 5. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

[H. R. 6422, 85th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, as used in this Act—

(a) The term "commerce" means commerce (1) among the several States or with foreign nations, (2) in any Territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia, (3) between any such Territory and another, (4) between any such Territory and any State or foreign nation, or (5) between the District of Columbia and any State, Territory, or foreign nation;

(b) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture;

(c) The term "person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, or association;

(d) The term "slaughterer" means any person regularly engaged in the business of (1) purchasing livestock or poultry in commerce for purposes of slaughter or (2) slaughtering livestock or poultry for the sale in commerce of meat, meat products, poultry, or poultry products;

(e) The term "livestock" means cattle, sheep, swine, horses, and other animals susceptible of use for the preparation of meat or meat products;

(f) The terms "packer" and "stockyard" shall have the same meaning as when used in the Packers and Stockyards Act (7 U. S. C. 191, 202);

(g) The term "approved method" of slaughtering shall mean any of the following:

(1) In the case of livestock, rendering such livestock insensible before bleeding or slaughtering, by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane;

(2) In the case of poultry, instantaneous severing of the head from the body or, if poultry is otherwise cut or stuck, by first rendering such poultry, insensible by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane;

(3) Slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any religious faith.

SEC. 2. (a) Livestock and poultry shall be slaughtered by an approved method.

(b) Livestock and poultry shall not be shackled, hoisted, cast, or otherwise brought into position for slaughter by any method that causes pain to the animals or fowl.

SEC. 3. Any person who by any act or omission violates any provision of section 2 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 4. The Secretary shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry this Act into effect.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect on the date two years after the date of enactment. Upon a showing of good cause the Secretary may by order exempt any person from compliance with any provision of this Act for an additional period not to exceed one year.

[H. R. 6509, 85th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, as used in this Act—

(a) The term "commerce" means commerce (1) among the several States or with foreign nations, (2) in any Territory of the United States or in the District of Columbia, (3) between any such Territory and another, (4) between any such Territory and any State or foreign nation, or (5) between the District of Columbia and any State, Territory, or foreign nation;

(b) The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Agriculture;

(c) The term "person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, or association;

(d) The term "slaughterer" means any person regularly engaged in the business of (1) purchasing livestock or poultry in commerce for purposes of slaughter, or (2) slaughtering livestock or poultry for the sale in commerce of meat, meat products, poultry, or poultry products;

(e) The term "livestock" means cattle, sheep, swine, horses, and other animals susceptible of use for the preparation of meat or meat products;

(f) The term "poultry" means any fowl susceptible of use as human or animal food;

(g) The term "approved method" of slaughtering shall mean any of the following:

1. In the case of livestock, rendering such livestock insensible before bleeding or slaughtering, by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane;

2. In the case of poultry, instantaneous severing of the head from the body or, if poultry is otherwise cut or stuck, by first rendering such poultry insensible by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane;

3. Slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any religious faith.

Sec. 2. (a) Livestock and poultry shall be slaughtered by an approved method.

(b) Livestock and poultry shall not be shackled, hoisted, cast, or otherwise brought into position for slaughter by any method that causes pain to the animals or fowl.

Sec. 3. Any person who by any act or omission violates any provision of section 2 shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

Sec. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized and directed to appoint an Advisory and Research Committee consisting of not more than ten members, chosen from the following classifications: the Department of Agriculture, the national organizations of slaughterers, the trade-union movement engaged in slaughterhouse work, livestock growers, societies of the humane movement in the United States, and persons familiar with the requirements of ritualistic slaughtering. Committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary, who may replace a member, or fill a vacancy, at any time. The Committee shall advise the Secretary concerning questions arising in the administration of this Act, including in appropriate cases recommendations to the Secretary pursuant to section 6 hereunder. The Committee shall also conduct a continuing study of methods of slaughter of livestock and poultry with the objective of improving and bringing about acceptance of more efficient and more humane methods of slaughter, other than those approved methods designated in section 1 (g) above. The Department of Agriculture shall assist the Committee with such research personnel and facilities as the Department can make available. Any Committee member who is an officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture shall receive no additional compensation for service rendered under this Act. Other members shall receive such compensation, not in excess of \$50 for each day of service, as the Secretary shall prescribe.

Sec. 5. The Secretary shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry this Act into effect.

Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect on the date two years after the date of enactment of this Act. Upon a showing of good cause and upon the recommendation of the Committee established under section 4, the Secretary may by order exempt any person from compliance with any provision of this Act for such a period of time as the Secretary shall determine to be reasonable, not to exceed one year.

Mr. POAGE. Mrs. Griffiths introduced the first of these humane slaughter bills, and has introduced legislation in the past.

And while we want to hear from all of the authors and to give them all an opportunity to be heard, before the hearings are over, and will do so, I wondered if it would not be appropriate to have Mrs. Griffiths make a statement at the present time before we start the general hearing and then hear possibly the Department of Agriculture witnesses, and then hear the general witnesses and possibly then we will hear those in opposition and then possibly hear the other congressional proponents at another date, because they presumably will be here.

I know a great many of you folks are here at considerable trouble and expense. So if there is not any objection I am going to ask that Mrs. Griffiths come forward.

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. Mr. Chairman, if it is the same to you I would prefer that the people who have come from some distance have an opportunity to give their testimony first, and I can wait until later.

Mr. POAGE. That will be perfectly permissible. In any event, we should have someone, I think, lay out the proposed legislation to the committee and then call the Department.

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. I will do that.

Mr. POAGE. All right.

STATEMENT OF HON. MARTHA W. GRIFFITHS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE 17TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, in the first place I would like to thank you for holding this hearing. And I would like to thank Mr. Poage and the other members of the committee personally for the interest that they have taken throughout the past year in trying to establish humane methods of slaughter.

I would like to point out to the committee that the United States is one of the only nations in the free world that does not have humane slaughter. That humane slaughter in general was enacted in other nations some 25 and 30 years ago; but that this Nation has never seen fit to enact such legislation.

Of course, if slaughterhouses had glass walls we would have had humane slaughter a long time ago. But they do not have.

The bill which I have introduced, H. R. 176, sets up the requirements of humane slaughter. That is, that the animal be rendered insensitive to pain before the killing process starts.

In beef animals it would be possible to do so by a captive bolt pistol which is quite inexpensive.

In the slaughter of hogs and of lambs, other methods would have to be instituted.

The Hormel Meat Packing Co. has already instituted humane slaughter. They have found not only that they produce a better meat but it saves a great deal for them. It results in less bruising of the animal and less meat is wasted and less leather wasted. It results in less injury to the human beings employed in meatpacking houses. It is the most dangerous occupation there is. They have more injuries in meatpacking houses than any place else.

Of course, it does not all come from the slaughter process, but some part of it does.

I would like to say in the beginning that while I have great respect for the gentleman from South Carolina who introduced House bill 5820, that the difficulty with that bill is that it sets up a study commission. It delays the institution of humane slaughter.

I urge you to pass H. R. 176 in order that we may have humane slaughter yet in our lifetime and delay this matter no further.

If you have any questions I will be glad to answer them.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you very much.

I think we better move on as fast as we can. We very much appreciate your being here.

I think possibly that we should now ask Dr. Clarkson and Dr. Miller to come forward.

We will be glad to hear from either one or both of you gentlemen. We have just a moment ago received a report from the Department. Neither counsel nor I have had an opportunity to find out whether it is favorable or unfavorable because we have just received it, but we will be glad to have you gentlemen present the views of the Department.

Dr. CLARKSON. Mr. Chairman, if we may we would like each to make a brief statement.

STATEMENT OF DR. M. R. CLARKSON, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE; ACCOMPANIED BY DR. A. R. MILLER, DIRECTOR, MEAT INSPECTION DIVISION, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Dr. CLARKSON. My name is M. R. Clarkson. I am Deputy Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service.

We appreciate the opportunity you have given us to comment on House bills 176, 2880, 3029, 3049, 5671, 5820, and 6422, which are designed to promote the use of improved methods of humane handling of livestock and poultry in interstate or foreign commerce.

There is widespread interest in this legislation. It is important, therefore, that the Department's position be clear.

We emphatically favor humane slaughter by any method that is found to be practicable and workable. The Department recommends the enactment of H. R. 5820 which would provide an orderly approach to this objective and would, in addition, provide for a coordinated national effort to improve the humane handling and transport of livestock and poultry which involve repeated handling of these animals during the marketing process from farm to slaughter.

H. R. 5820 would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct, assist, and foster research, investigation, and experimentation to develop and encourage the adoption of improved methods of handling, transporting, and slaughtering of livestock and poultry.

The bill would authorize the Secretary to appoint an advisory committee composed of nine members who would consult and advise him in carrying out the proposed legislation.

The bill would provide for the Secretary to report to the Congress annually, commencing January 1, 1959, concerning actions taken pursuant to the legislation.

The Department is opposed to the enactment of the other bills listed above. The enactment of mandatory Federal legislation backed with the threat of criminal prosecution for those operators engaged in interstate commerce is not a satisfactory way of handling a situation that requires so much careful study and development to bring together the factors of practicality and humane handling.

A practical approach should be taken to devise and to encourage and promote the use of improved methods for the humane handling, transporting, and slaughtering of livestock and poultry as is provided in H. R. 5820.

No one has yet devised a method of slaughter that does not involve some pain. Yet food animals must be slaughtered, and attention must be directed toward improvements in equipment and techniques, the adoption of more rapid and orderly methods of handling the animals just prior to slaughter, and of course the avoidance of abuse.

This orderly approach in our view represents a method that is preferable to the enforcement of mandatory Federal legislation.

Judgment of a procedure or of a device to determine whether it is in fact "humane" when slaughtering livestock or poultry is extremely difficult, since no one has developed the basic criteria for evaluating animal reactions to stimuli that might cause pain or fright.

Wide differences of opinion are usually expressed about the practicality as well as the humaneness of any new method proposed.

Each such proposal must be carefully considered and finally tested in the plants to determine these issues.

Much fundamental knowledge is lacking upon which to base an opinion of the acceptability of one method over another from the standpoint of humaneness. Research is needed to develop information which may shed light on this aspect of the problem. H. R. 5820 would provide for this type of approach.

Research would be predicated on the assumption that the unconscious animal suffers no pain and that the end point with respect to pain would be insensibility.

Determination of what insensibility is and when it is reached is necessary. The effects of variations in time and procedure on the resultant meat must be appraised, and objective observations of the degree of excitement and pain in the subject animals must be made.

Electroencephalography and electrocardiography observations should be made to establish objective patterns of the nervous and cardiac changes reflecting degrees of excitation and shock. Information gained from such work would be helpful in assessing the humane aspects of proposed procedures and devices.

It must not be overlooked that factors contributing to inhumane handling of animals include not only the design of facilities, the operating procedures, and the attitudes of persons involved, but also the characteristics, tendencies, and the often violent action of the animals themselves.

Fear and apprehension of the unknown sometimes cause animals to injure themselves and other animals even though no direct force had

been applied to them. This is especially true of animals that have been raised on the range or farm without confinement or individual handling.

Farmers obtain about 33 percent of their income from the sale of livestock and poultry for meat. Industry has a large stake in the handling, transporting, slaughtering, and processing of livestock and poultry. All must be concerned with the humane treatment of livestock and poultry.

This country places great reliance on its livestock and meat industry for the essential proteins in our ever-improving national diet.

The population of the United States is increasing at the rate of 2 million people annually. The per capita consumption of meat is now about one-third more than it was 20 years ago. Over 130 million animals and 1,400 million poultry must be processed each year to satisfy the demand.

Some years ago many groups interested in this field of humane handling of animals formed which is now called Livestock Conservation, Inc. The Department has worked closely with them to develop information on more humane methods of handling all classes of livestock and in the use of such methods.

Speed in the handling of livestock and poultry before and at the time of slaughter tends to reduce pain and injury. Livestock transportation and holding facilities have been improved in many ways to prevent suffocation, overheating, slipping, and other injuries to animals.

These gains are the direct results of experimental and developmental work, with the farmers, industry, humane associations, and the Department of Agriculture cooperating. Such an approach brings about the orderly progress that consumers, farmers and the livestock and meat industry have a right to expect.

In addition to this cooperation with farmers and others, the Department of Agriculture for many years has administered laws designed to promote the humane handling of livestock under certain limited conditions.

The so-called 28-hour law provides for the proper feeding and watering of livestock in interstate rail shipments.

Another act governs the handling of livestock for export overseas to assure that adequate and safe quarters will be provided on board ship or plane and that sufficient provisions will be made for feed and water in transit.

In both of these cases the livestock are not in the possession of the owner but are in the custody of others who may not be expected to feel the same degree of responsibility for their handling.

This aspect of the situation is emphasized in many cases by the fact that the railroad or shipping line has control of the only practical means of transport. Under such circumstances the administration of these laws by the Department of Agriculture rather than by local authorities is appropriate.

But this is under quite a different principle from that which would be involved in imposing the supervision of the Federal Government on a farmer or on a packer who is handling his own livestock and poultry on his own premises.

The Department of Agriculture accepts its share of the responsibility to develop and encourage the use of all practical improvements

in the humane handling, transporting, and slaughtering of livestock and poultry.

We believe the research and educational process applied to all stages of such handling will produce sound and enduring results and serve the best interests of consumers, processors, and producers.

Mr. Chairman, Dr. Miller has a short statement also.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you, Dr. Clarkson. We will be glad to hear from you now.

Dr. MILLER. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am A. R. Miller, Director, Meat Inspection Division, Agricultural Research Service, of the Department of Agriculture.

Our meat inspection program extends to approximately 500 slaughterers in this country who process annually more than 100 million food animals.

In connection with our meat inspectional activities we have observed practices used in the handling of food animals as they are brought from the farm to the slaughtering establishment and in the establishment.

In connection with this experience we become familiar with the attitude of the meatpacker and his interest in the handling of food animals as they are brought to his plant and handled within his plant.

We find that most meatpackers are very interested in and go to a great deal of trouble and expense in an effort to avoid injury to the animal and provide such comforts as proper feed and water and protection against extremes of heat and cold.

They give attention to such details as the paving of pens and runways with materials that will provide sure footing. They avoid overcrowding animals in the pens so as to permit the animals to rest in the holding pens.

They eliminate sharp obstacles in runways and forbid their drivers to use clubs and sticks which might injure the animal. These are only examples of many details which receive attention by the American meatpacker in providing food animals with those facilities that minimize discomfort and injury.

As might be expected, the extent to which these details receive attention varies throughout the industry.

Of course, all of these things are connected with the economic interest which the meatpacker has in his property. Nevertheless, all of the things that I have mentioned bear an immediate and direct relationship to the subject of humane handling of animals.

Furthermore, there is reason to believe that the packer has an awareness for humane principles in the handling of animals entrusted to his care. This applies equally to packinghouse workmen. Certainly, neither of these groups condone viciousness in handling food animals or animals of any kind.

As humane handling of animals becomes the subject of legislation, those affected by the law are entitled to know with some degree of certainty how they might comply with the law with reasonable confidence that they will accomplish the objectives of the legislation.

In this connection the Department has recommended against the enactment of the so-called mandatory legislation contemplated in bills represented by H. R. 176, H. R. 2880, H. R. 3029, H. R. 3049, H. R. 5671, and H. R. 6422.

These bills would require the packer to slaughter animals humanely by rendering them insensible before bleeding, using a method approved by the Secretary of Agriculture.

As the Secretary's role is visualized in the administration and enforcement of such legislation, he must have available methods that meet the criteria of the legislation.

We cannot say that such methods may not be available or may not be developed. They must, however, be identified with certainty before they can be recommended or prescribed for use.

In this connection, the Department recommends enactment of H. R. 5820 that would enable the Department to undertake the kind of cooperative investigation and development that would identify the most effective methods for humane handling of animals.

From time to time reference has been made to slaughtering methods used in Europe. Europe has on occasion been cited as an example to be followed in this field.

Actually, Europe is an example of how important it is that slaughtering methods be carefully studied before being legislated into use rather than after being installed and in use.

On November 27, 1954, there was held at Utrecht in the Netherlands a seminar to study the method of slaughter most commonly in use in Europe. The seminar reviewed the method from the point of view of humane handling of animals and as to its practicality.

This slaughtering method that has been used widely in Europe for years was seriously questioned on both these points. Some members of the seminar commented that there is uncertainty that the humaneness of the method has been satisfactorily resolved.

It was pointed out, also, that there are impractical aspects attending its use that should be studied. It might be observed that this method is still the one most widely used in Europe.

This reference to slaughtering practices in Europe is not made for the purpose of discrediting any slaughtering device used there. It is used as an example to illustrate the problem that would confront the Secretary of Agriculture were he required to prescribe humane slaughtering methods.

A method must be supported by such study, investigation and development that will gain its adoption and assure the packer who installs the method that he can safely meet any criticism with an authoritative position that he is in fact using a humane method of slaughter. The general public, too, would receive assurance that the best possible methods are being used.

In summary, the Department recommends enactment of H. R. 5820, which would enable the Department of Agriculture and American industry to provide our livestock with the maximum benefits that would derive from an orderly development of humane methods.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you, Dr. Miller.

Dr. Clarkson, I think that we should have some idea how long the Department assumes they would have to study this problem before they could arrive at some decision.

What is your idea of that? How long do you think you would need? That is, to study this problem?

Dr. CLARKSON. Mr. Chairman, I do not believe that our position should be looked at from that standpoint. We are not suggesting a

study commission that will put into effect a program of investigation and then report on certain specific methods which then must be put into effect universally.

Mr. POAGE. I know, but how long?

Dr. CLARKSON. We contemplate a continuing program.

Mr. POAGE. If we are to wait until such time as you would never study any further on it, that would go on forever.

It seems to me that we should be practical about this thing. And if we haven't arrived at any knowledge of this problem after all of these years, that we assume you would not arrive at any more knowledge of it in the next 40 years.

I am not saying that we ought not to study it. We ought to continue to study it. That is why I believe with these bills that the Department should prescribe humane rules within limitations, and where limitations seem to be unfair, to come back to Congress, of course.

If you are just suggesting an unlimited study period with no limit whatsoever it seems to me we would just not get any bill.

I think you testified that you were now cooperating with some group and had been studying with these methods for a good many years. I do not know whether you or Dr. Miller made that statement.

Dr. CLARKSON. In answer to your question there would be a great deal of difference as contrasted with the present and the past. The handling of livestock through the plants as on the farm or in any other activity is under the surveillance of localities through their authorities and through the various humane associations in those areas. These groups have demonstrated their effectiveness in this country when they are in a position to back proved methods with the weight of their interests.

The Department has always lent its encouragement to the development in this field, but the Department has never taken the position of leadership which is envisaged by this legislation with specific effort to determine through research and development and practice, improved methods all along the line for the humane handling of livestock; and, particularly, in the slaughter methods.

So that we would have a decidedly different aspect of the affair than we have had in the past.

Mr. POAGE. On page 4 of your statement you said:

Many groups interested in this field of humane handling of animals formed what is now called Livestock Conservation, Inc.

The Department has worked closely with them to develop information on more humane methods of handling all classes of livestock and in the use of such methods.

Dr. CLARKSON. Yes.

Mr. POAGE. I may have drawn a wrong inference from it, but I gathered that is what you proposed to continue.

Dr. CLARKSON. No; it isn't. The Livestock Conservation, Inc., is made up of representatives of the humane societies and associations and representatives of industry.

And the Department does work with them. It has been a matter of development through all of their resources to improve methods of handling of livestock generally, but under the legislation that the Department is supporting the Department would be in a position of

exercising leadership and, also, of putting its own resources into specific study and experimentation.

Mr. POAGE. It has been suggested, maybe in an effort to expedite this matter and to get as many of those who are here as possible to make their statements, that we ask the Department if you could come back at a later date, because we will want to go into this more fully.

I think it is important to know what you have in mind here. We do not want to leave it this way. But we will not be able to hear these other witnesses if we are going into this matter in the detail it deserves.

I wonder if you could come back at some later date?

Dr. CLARKSON. We will be at the disposal of the committee. I would like to ask this: I have some other commitments during the day—whether you intend to do it today.

Mr. POAGE. No. We will never get to you today. We will communicate with you and find out when you can come back, and we can meet with you.

Dr. CLARKSON. We will respond to any request you make.

Mr. POAGE. Then I believe we have next Dr. Rutherford T. Phillips, executive director of the American Humane Association.

Dr. Phillips, we will be glad to hear from you.

Mr. MORGAN. I was going to make a few introductory remarks before Mr. Phillips spoke. I am the attorney for the association.

Mr. POAGE. We will be glad to hear from you.

Mr. MORGAN. Might I be heard before Mr. Phillips?

Mr. POAGE. Yes, sir.

STATEMENT OF JO V. MORGAN, JR., ATTORNEY, THE AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION

Mr. MORGAN. I am Jo V. Morgan, Jr., of Washington, D. C., attorney for the American Humane Association, an 80-year-old national association with headquarters in Denver, Colo., which is a federation of over 500 humane societies throughout the country.

Its executive director, Mr. Rutherford T. Phillips, and Mr. John C. Macfarlane, one of the American Humane Association members on the joint committee for improved methods of humane slaughter of the American Humane Association and the American Meat Institute, and also director of livestock conservation for New England Livestock Conservation, Inc., and Massachusetts, SPCA, will testify orally today.

I would like to request the chairman for permission for Mr. Carlton E. Buttrick who is able to be here from Boston, past president of the American Humane Association, who has a written statement to offer in a moment, that he might have just a minute or two to orally add to his remarks, if that could be arranged.

Mr. POAGE. I think it can be arranged.

Mr. MORGAN. Thank you.

Also written statements will be offered by—

1. C. Raymond Naramore, of Rochester, N. Y., a director of the American Humane Association.

2. William T. Phillips, of Philadelphia, a director of the American Humane Association.

3. Carlton E. Buttrick, of Boston, past president of the American Humane Association.

4. Clifton E. Johnson, of Detroit, chairman of the American Humane Association's Committee on Animal Legislation.

5. J. J. Shaffer, of Chicago, a member of the American Humane Association's Committee on Animal Legislation.

6. Mr. Blair F. Claybaught, a past vice president of the American Humane Association, and now president of the Federated Humane Societies of Pennsylvania.

7. Mrs. Arthur F. Perkins, president of the Richmond, Va., Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

8. Raymond Hanfield, who is executive assistant of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

All of these people are, in addition, leaders in their local humane societies or federations, and except for Mr. W. T. Phillips, are present, but due to limitation of time will not testify orally.

I respectfully ask that their statements be made a part of the record of this hearing.

Mr. POAGE. Without objection we will include the statements.

Mr. MORGAN. The position of the American Humane Association on the bills pending before this committee is that it favors enactment of a compulsory humane slaughter bill. Of the bills before your committee, H. R. 176, 2880, 3029, 3049, and 6509 are compulsory bills. H. R. 5820 is not.

The original S. 1636 of the last Congress was introduced in the Senate at the request of the American Humane Association. This session, representatives of the American Humane Association conferred at length with the Senate committee staff, which conferred also with other interested parties, including those interested in religious ritualistic slaughtering.

As a result the text of S. 1497 was evolved which the American Humane Association has gone on record as supporting in the Senate.

At our request, an identical bill has been introduced in the House as H. R. 6509. It, like most of the other bills before you, is a compulsory bill, and we support it.

Mr. Phillips and Mr. Macfarlane orally, and the others I have mentioned by their written statements, are here today to tell you why the American Humane Association urges a favorable support of H. R. 6509.

They are here today to tell you why the American Humane Association urges a favorable report on H. R. 6509 but if I might add something parenthetically, the important thing is the passage of a compulsory bill.

The various differences in the compulsory bills which are before you, are minor in comparison to the difference between those bills and H. R. 5820 which is a noncompulsory bill.

We urge the committee especially, irrespective of what text is most favorably considered, that whatever bill is reported favorably that it be a compulsory bill.

And if I may now introduce Mr. Phillips, our executive director.

(The prepared statements of Mr. C. Raymond Naramore, vice president and executive director of the Humane Society of Rochester

and Monroe County, N. Y.; William T. Phillips, operative manager, the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; Carlton E. Buttrick, president of the Animal Rescue League of Boston and an officer and director of New England Livestock Conservation, Inc.; Clifton E. Johnson, executive secretary-manager, the Michigan Humane Society, Detroit, Mich.; J. J. Shaffer, managing director of the Anti-Cruelty Society of Chicago; Mrs. Blair F. Claybaugh, president of the Humane Society of Harrisburg, Pa., and president of the Federated Humane Societies of Pennsylvania; Helen N. Perkins, president, the Richmond Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; and Raymond J. Hanfield, executive assistant, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, New York, N. Y., are as follows:)

STATEMENT OF C. RAYMOND NARAMORE, VICE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF ROCHESTER AND MONROE COUNTY, N. Y., A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION AND CHAIRMAN OF THE AHA COMMITTEE ON AWARDS FOR HUMANE SLAUGHTERING

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is C. Raymond Naramore. I am vice president and executive director of the Humane Society of Rochester and Monroe County, N. Y., a member of the board of directors of the American Humane Association, and chairman of the American Humane Association Committee on Awards for Humane Slaughtering.

Nearly 7,000 members of the Humane Society of Rochester and Monroe County, N. Y., have long been disturbed by the knowledge of common practices in the American slaughterhouses.

Three years ago the board of directors of the Humane Society of Rochester and Monroe County appointed a committee on humane slaughtering. This committee has worked actively with the American Humane Association in its attempts to bring about improved slaughtering methods. It has continually brought to the attention of the members of the Humane Society of Rochester and Monroe County the great need for instituting humane slaughtering on the killing floors of the meat packinghouses in the United States.

We in Rochester and Monroe County firmly believe the progress of humane thinking makes this the right time for the enactment of legislation for humane slaughtering, for we are convinced that a great tide of desire for humane killing methods has been sweeping across the country.

In Rochester and Monroe County, meatpackers have unanimously stated to our Humane Slaughter Committee their desires to use practical methods of humane slaughtering in their business of meatpacking.

Many leaders in the national meat industry have said that they too are desirous of using humane killing methods. The National Provisioner, leading publication of the meatpacking industries, has stated editorially: "We believe that the passage of some kind of humane slaughter law is not too far off."

There are now available several improved methods of humane killing. These have been tried and found efficient, humane, and economical.

The utilization of these now satisfactory devices for humane slaughtering will give moral impetus to the whole humane movement in the United States, create good public relations between the meat industry and the millions of humanitarians, bring more efficient and economical processing to the packers, and eliminate the horrible, unnecessary cruelty, pain and suffering that is today such a black blot on America.

Necessary suffering is bad. Unnecessary is criminal.

The 7,000 members of the Humane Society of Rochester and Monroe County ask that you gentlemen of Congress wipe out this cruelty.

We ask you to act favorably upon compulsory humane slaughter legislation.

We ask you to save from suffering countless creatures each year.

We ask you to pour forth the milk of human kindness.

STATEMENT OF CLIFTON E. JOHNSON OF THE MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY, DETROIT, MICH.

As a person who has for many years been associated with animal welfare work, I have long deplored the suffering undergone by our so-called meat animals. I have especially deplored that which is inflicted upon animals during the process of being dispatched for slaughter. As a humanitarian, this suffering has been particularly offensive since it radiates a baseness that we have sought to stamp out through humane teaching and application of kind principles in every association with the animal world. I feel that to inflict unnecessary suffering, when such suffering can be avoided, is to act in direct contradiction to the American way of life—a manner of life that came into existence as a result of a desire to extend kindness and fair play to all creatures. If we are to exemplify sincerity, then we must surely extend our principles to all forms of life dependent on we humans. Certainly our meat animals come well within this latter category.

It stands to reason that any animal slaughtered in a manner conducive to a quick and painless death, will unquestionably produce a greater amount of edible product in the grading out during butchering. I firmly believe that any undue reaction produced by the application of inhumane methods of killing only tends to render some parts of the edible product useless. If death is not instantaneous, or brought about while the animal is in a relaxed state, struggling is bound to ensue, thus adding tremendous suffering to whatever economical loss can be proven.

STATEMENT OF CARLTON E. BUTTRICK, PRESIDENT OF THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON AND AN OFFICER AND DIRECTOR OF NEW ENGLAND LIVESTOCK CONSERVATION, INC.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Carlton E. Buttrick. I am president of the Animal Rescue League of Boston and an officer and director of New England Livestock Conservation, Inc.

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to present the position of the proponents of compulsory humane slaughtering and, further, to say that there are literally thousands of members of the organizations I represent who are vitally concerned and who sincerely hope that passage of humane slaughter legislation will be accomplished in this session of Congress.

I believe that the passage of legislation to require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry would be a tremendous step forward in the treatment of millions of this country's food animals. Many years ago the Congress saw fit to pass legislation which would require animals in transit to market to be rested, watered, and fed every 24 to 36 hours, but no law or regulation has been adopted to insure the humane slaughter of these animals when they reach their destination. Doesn't this seem a little incongruous?

The bills presently being studied by your committee will provide an understandable and enforceable law under which no slaughterer would be permitted to hoist, bleed, or slaughter any livestock or poultry unless such livestock and poultry had first been rendered insensible by mechanical, electrical, chemical or other means determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to be rapid, effective, and humane. For years there was the excuse that an improved method of humane slaughter was lacking. This excuse is no longer valid. The Remington humane animal stunner, the captive bolt pistol, the CO₂ immobilization chamber and the electric knife now make humane slaughter practicable and economically sound. Is not this an opportune time to bring the slaughter industry in our country up to European standards? Given the incentive of legislation, I believe American resourcefulness and desire for perfection will result in the United States eventually leading the nations of the world in humane slaughtering.

It has been only when regulation and laws have forced their use that great experiments and discoveries have been put into practice on a national scale.

Tuberculin to test and discover tubercular bovine animals was in the demonstration status for many years with but limited use. It was not until compulsory methods and laws were passed in the States and backed by the United States Department of Agriculture that the disease was conquered.

The pasteurization of milk was known and recommended for over 25 years, but little progress was made until State and Federal laws required pasteurization throughout the country.

So it will be with the adoption of humane methods of slaughter. With the methods now known it seems reasonable that the time has come to put these methods into general use by legislation.

Packers who have adopted the available methods have found them safer, more efficient and cleaner, as well as more humane.

It is particularly noteworthy that many newspapers across the country have editorially and otherwise favored the adoption of humane slaughter methods. The Boston Herald on Thursday, January 24, 1957, editorially commented:

"The poleax and the scalding tank have been the symbols of 20th century civilization. Yet if Congress passes humane slaughter legislation at this session, much will have been accomplished to curb misery. And, perhaps, much for the human spirit as well. The toleration of the poleax is an evidence of a deeper social ill than mere inefficiency. Across our vaunted prosperity and liberty is written an awful slogan: 'After all, they're only animals.'"

"But are they, really?"

Therefore, on the basis of present knowledge, and of the benefits which would result, my plea today is for a favorable report on the humane slaughter legislation before you so that it may be brought before the Congress for consideration and adoption.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM T. PHILLIPS, OPERATIVE MANAGER, OF THE PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

The Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has been cognizant of the cruelty practiced in the slaughter of food animals during the 90 years of its existence, and has endeavored always to minimize these cruelties.

We know that compulsory legislation is the only means of combating this evil, which is a blot upon our civilization.

We urge the committee to favorably consider this bill and to recommend its passage.

STATEMENT OF J. J. SHAFFER, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE ANTICRUELTY SOCIETY OF CHICAGO

I am J. J. Shaffer, managing director of the Anti-Cruelty Society, an Illinois charitable organization with offices in Chicago. I also speak as a member of an American Humane Association committee that is active in studying improved methods of slaughter in cooperation with the American Meat Institute.

We have a pleasant working relationship with the institute and with many individual packers, notwithstanding that there is a difference in our thinking on humane slaughter. We are concerned largely with the probable amount of pain and suffering experienced by a given animal going to slaughter by one method as compared with another. On the other hand, the thinking of most packers is geared to the dollars and cents of economical, highly competitive operation. We respect their view along profit-and-loss lines, and we hope they respect our view that animals deserve a merciful death, even if mercy imposes initial inconvenience and modest capital outlay.

In our judgment, the need for improved slaughter techniques is so great and the foreseeable voluntary adoption of such techniques so limited that there should be no delay in the passage of mandatory legislation.

As we pointed out at a Senate hearing on this subject last spring, we would not ask for passage of a law if there were convincing evidence that all units of the packing industry are aggressively engaged in the testing and adoption of improved methods. We have not seen such evidence.

In October of 1952, a representative of the Anti-Cruelty Society attended a convention of the American Meat Institute where the industry was formally introduced to the then-new Hormel method of carbon dioxide immobilization of hogs. The seemingly enthusiastic reception given an address and film on the subject made us think that the method soon would be in wide use, but here it is 1957—4½ years later—and there is only a token trend within the industry to do more than try to find reasons why this method "won't work in my plant."

About 250 million pigs in the United States have gone to slaughter in other plants in the old-fashioned, conscious hoist-and-slit way since the discovery went

into practical operation in the Hormel schedule. Picture the mail being unloaded in Congressmen's offices if people by the millions were dying in fear and pain because physicians were arguing among themselves and refusing to use a proved drug or other treatment known to prevent fear and pain at death, solely because it costs 2 or 3 cents more per patient or because it requires a change in their way of handling cases.

That may be an extreme comparison, yet it reflects what is happening in livestock slaughter.

The Remington stunner, an instrument which stuns cattle with a precision blow that excels results with the widely used sledge hammer, is another new and superior humane slaughter aid on which we pin high hopes. Two leading packers and a few small ones have been giving it an exhaustive trial and have expended a great deal of time and money to prove its worth.

The Remington tool, like the Hormel method for hogs, was officially unveiled at a national convention of the American Meat Institute (1956), following several months of study. It bids to get faster acceptance than the carbon dioxide apparatus because it is relatively inexpensive (about \$220 per instrument) and not costly to maintain or operate in terms of outlay per head slaughtered. We question, however, whether even this simple answer to humane killing will be nationally accepted without compulsion. We say this with full respect to the institute, which has taken leadership in proving the suitability of the tool, and with gratitude to plants that have pioneered in putting it to use in knocking pens.

The fact that leading plants which tested the Remington stunner were sometimes discouraged and almost ready to abandon it, due to a great many early mechanical difficulties, suggests to us that other companies might not be as persevering as these leaders in the absence of legislative compulsion.

We know that compulsion is a disagreeable word in our American way of free enterprise. We don't blame packers for resenting this approach. Nevertheless, we ask packers, and all Members of Congress who may have a doubt, to take a fresh look at the problem and try to view it this way:

First, while the proposed law does involve compulsion, it does not predicate regimentation or unfair demands. The final decision as to whether packers will be required to use any given method will be based on careful study by the Secretary of Agriculture and his advisers and on conferences with the packers. We hope that all will realize that humane organizations want to help people who deal in livestock, not put them out of business, so please do not think that responsible humane workers, as represented by the American Humane Association, will make unworkable requests of the law.

Second, we have gone too far to turn back. Congress, by concerning itself with this problem, already has spurred an unprecedented amount of interest within the industry. Money has been poured into the project by some private firms, all packers are sitting up and taking notice, but the vast majority are standing by to see which way congressional decision will go. If it goes against the passage of a law, everything thus far gained may be lost from a humane standpoint.

Third, let's be realistic about the public and slaughter talk. Packers always have shied away from public mention of the fact that T-bone steaks and pork chops stem from a bloody spectacle on the killing floor—and we understand why. But the lid is off now, the story is out and circulating widely, so it would seem that this phase of packing industry public relations must undergo a change to having a counterstory about a peaceful end instead of hiding the unappetizing details of most present slaughter methods.

Finally, we think that the meatpacking industry will profit in the long run from humane slaughter, because kindness is good public relations and good business. We are confident, from our gratifying dealings with packers, that the cruelty now existent in slaughter operations is not intentional and that everyone concerned would like to eliminate it. The trouble has been that too many people have taken harsh killing methods for granted, as if unavoidable. We now know that most of the pain-causing practices can be eliminated, and more improvements will come as positive thinking is directed at the problem.

Over 100 million head of large livestock go to slaughter annually in federally inspected plants, plus hundreds of millions of poultry.

The least we can do is to make it as easy as possible for them to die for us.

STATEMENT OF MRS. BLAIR F. CLAYBAUGH, PRESIDENT OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF HARRISBURG, PA., AND PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATED HUMANE SOCIETIES OF PENNSYLVANIA

I have the honor and responsibility of representing a vast amount of citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who are members of the 45 active humane societies in our State.

Speaking for them and for myself, it seems absolutely incredible that there should be the slightest opposition to the enactment of legislation to require the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry.

There would be no point in my repeating the testimony that experts have given and will give at these hearings concerning the brutal methods of slaughter that are used in most of the packing plants throughout this country. The facts are revolting and shocking that a highly civilized country like our United States should be so backward in using humane methods of slaughtering.

It is now common knowledge that humane methods are available and are in use by many packers, but the vast majority are too callous and indifferent to adopt the new methods.

It is amazing to me that the public is so ill-informed about what is, in my opinion, a national scandal. If the average person knew the facts as presented at the hearings last May before the Subcommittee on Agriculture and Forestry of the United States Senate, I venture to say that several big packing plants would be driven out of business and some smaller ones which have adopted humane slaughtering methods would be hard-pressed to supply the demand for their products.

My personal opinion, and I hope I do not offend the lawmakers present, is that they, and their counterparts in State legislatures, have been lax in their duty to their constituents in not having enacted humane slaughter legislation long since. Furthermore, I feel that putting off the effective date of enforcement of humane slaughtering is little short of criminal.

I am grateful for the privilege of presenting our views and am very humbly asking passage of this legislation and in the interests of just ordinary human kindness—make humane slaughtering a law.

STATEMENT OF HELEN N. PERKINS, PRESIDENT OF THE RICHMOND SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, RICHMOND, VA.

Representing the officers, board of directors and members of the Richmond (Va.) Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals I ask your favorable consideration of a humane slaughtering bill that will bring to an end the atrocious conditions and treatment of animals in the slaughtering plants of the United States.

Humane means for killing the animals we depend upon for our food supply are available and in use by many of the large meat-producing companies.

Usage has proven that beyond the humane desire of saving the animals from unnecessary torture these companies are able to operate more efficiently. The cost is negligible and no financial hardship will be imposed due to the tremendous savings made possible through more efficient production with no loss of meat due to carelessness and negligence in handling the animals.

STATEMENT OF RAYMOND J. HANFIELD, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

For at least 5,000 years man has slaughtered his food animals in pretty much the same way insofar as pain and suffering and fright to the animal is concerned. True, modern packinghouse methods are marvels of mechanical and electronic automation in practically every respect save one—inhumaneness to the animal. There is still pain and suffering.

The bills currently offered to the Congress furnish us an opportunity to make the strides necessary to eliminate the evil of inhumaneness.

We are considering a new law to invoke humane slaughtering.

We are considering an old problem dating back to 40 years. The problem is not new; the solution is adequate and has found acceptance in both this country and abroad. A solution to the problem has been in operation in Europe for many years. In the United States we have been reluctant to accept the findings

of our European meatpackers because it had been believed that a humane method would tend to damage a carcass, slow down the belt system—production, and a general attitude that we have followed a set pattern which has afforded profits at minimum costs and production at a minimum cost of man-hours. The meatpackers, it would seem, in some instances, are fearful of having their industry's methods of slaughter saddled. Such is far from the truth.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and its thousands of supporters throughout the Nation give its unqualified support to several fine bills requiring humane slaughter regulations and identified as H. R. 176, H. R. 2880, H. R. 3029, H. R. 3049, and S. 1497. These bills are the result of over 40 years of intensive research to establish:

Humane practical and economical methods and means of rendering an animal insensible to pain and suffering before slaughtering.

A practical solution allowing a 2-year period for conversion from the present methods.

Call for sufficient penalty for violations.

Call for helpful and practical inspections.

The present methods devised to carry out the proposed legislation will actually preserve a carcass, will carry out the eventual slaughter of the animal in a quick, efficient, and safe manner, insofar as the employee is concerned; will increase production in that the method affords quick, effective slaughter in minimum time. The industry on the whole will actually profit by a more scientific operation.

You are referred to a method invoked by the use of a device described as a captive-bolt pistol. The animal is pacified by the use of floodlights which tend to quiet the animal—the captive-bolt pistol is then applied to render the animal insensible in a painless, inoffensive manner. Techniques in applying the captive-bolt pistol have demonstrated without question that this humane medium can be developed to a most efficient, economical, and better way of disposing of an animal. The animal is rendered insensible without excessive fear which tends to affect the quality of the beef, pork, lamb, or meat in general, and without material damage to the carcass.

We are endeavoring to put into being a law that will humanize the meat industry and make it as modern as that in Europe, insofar as humaneness is concerned.

We are confronted with proposed legislation, such as S. 1213, which provides, in substance, further study of the project. Such legislation merely perpetuates the status quo and forestalls, once again, the inevitable. After 40 years we have studied the problem sufficiently to request adequate legislation that will relieve the present pain and suffering that are necessary concomitants of the slaughter of our food animals.

Would we consider a law that would attempt, at this time to set aside the use of Salk polio vaccine, laws pertaining to pure food and drug laws, laws to stall off old-age pensions, social security, child welfare, and the like—of course not. Even in the ancient art of pottery-making has there not been changes. And by the same token, we cannot and must not avoid a good law that tends to promote vital industry. Nor should we avoid the immediate passage of a law that assists the public to lift itself from methods inflicting pain, suffering and fright.

The American people abhor cruelty, especially when such cruelty is not necessary and a carryover from the carriage and horse days. In a country as modern as we pride ourselves to be how can we in conscience and decency continue to condone such senseless, unbusinesslike, impractical means of slaughter in the light of devices on the market that make for efficient, quick, safe, and modern methods of carrying on an important industry.

Mr. POAGE. We will hear from Mr. Buttrick.

STATEMENT OF CARLTON E. BUTTRICK, PRESIDENT OF THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON, AND AN OFFICER AND DIRECTOR OF NEW ENGLAND LIVESTOCK CONSERVATION, INC.

Mr. BUTTRICK. Mr. Chairman, I am a past president of the American Humane Association, as Mr. Morgan pointed out, and also a director of New England Livestock Conservation, Inc.

I appreciate your giving me just a moment or two to speak to you on this very important legislation that is before you.

Other speakers will go into the bills and the available humane methods that are now available. But I would like to refer to a remark made by Dr. Clarkson that many years ago Congress saw fit to pass legislation which would require animals in transit to markets be rested and watered and fed every 24 to 36 hours, but no law or regulation has been adopted to insure the humane slaughter of these animals when they reach their destination.

Does not this seem to be a little incongruous to have such a condition?

It has been only when regulation and laws have forced their use that great experiments and discoveries have been put into practice on a national scale.

Tuberculin to test and discover tubercular bovine animals was in the demonstration status for many years with but limited use. It was not until compulsory methods and laws were passed in the States and backed by the United States Department of Agriculture that the disease was conquered.

The pasteurization of milk was known and recommended for over 25 years, but little progress was made until State and Federal laws required pasteurization throughout the country.

So it will be with the adoption of humane methods of slaughter. With the methods now known it seems reasonable that the time has come to put these methods into general use by compulsory humane slaughter legislation.

I think it is particularly noteworthy that many newspapers across the country have editorially and otherwise favored the adoption of humane slaughter methods. The Boston Herald for example, on Thursday, January 24 of this year commented:

The poleax and the scalding tank have been the symbols of 20th century civilization. Yet if Congress passes humane slaughter legislation at this session, much will be accomplished to curb misery. And, perhaps, much for the humane spirit as well. The toleration of the poleax, is an evidence of a deeper social ill than mere inefficiency. Across our vaunted prosperity and liberty is written an awful slogan: "After all, they are only animals."

Therefore, on the basis of present knowledge, and of benefits which would result, my plea today is not for a favorable report on the humane slaughter legislation before you but that this committee will deem it fit to report favorably on a compulsory humane slaughter law.

I thank you gentlemen for giving me this opportunity.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you. We will hear now from Mr. Phillips.

STATEMENT OF RUTHERFORD T. PHILLIPS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Rutherford T. Phillips. I am executive director of the American Humane Association with headquarters in Denver, Colo.

It is my privilege as its executive director to represent the association, the 80-year-old national federation of local and State humane societies, which also counts several thousand individuals interested in the child and animal welfare among its supporters.

The American Humane Association sincerely appreciates this opportunity to express its views on compulsory humane slaughtering legislation.

Also here to speak, or submit statements, for the humane movement are various representatives from the leading humane organizations of this country.

The American Humane Association hopes to secure the approval of your committee for a compulsory humane slaughtering bill. It is our belief that such a bill will provide a clearcut, legal and enforceable law under which no slaughterer would be permitted to bleed or slaughter any livestock or poultry unless such livestock and poultry has been rendered insensible by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary of Agriculture to be rapid, effective, and humane.

We believe such a bill, as written, is entirely fair since it would allow slaughterers freedom to make their choice of several methods and facilities for approved humane slaughtering, and a time leeway for compliance may be granted by the Advisory Committee for adequate reasons.

Too large a portion of the American slaughtering industry still uses inhumane methods. I am not going to discuss the various forms or kinds of inhumanity that are perpetrated upon animal life, as I believe that you, as a group, have familiarized yourselves with some of the basic problems on this subject.

We all know that slaughtering is not a particularly attractive business. We, in the humane movement, fully understand that certain procedures are necessary for the proper processing of meat and poultry, but we are fully united in our belief that inhumanity to animals is not necessary.

We are disturbed by the utilization of the sledge and we know that even in the hands of skilled and strong men, the sledge frequently misses, sliding down the animal's head causing great pain and fright—or with heavy bone formation, several hits must be made before the animal is brought down.

We are concerned at the sticking and bleeding to death, while conscious, of pigs, calves, and sheep.

There are in the United States some humane methods of slaughter already in use. We know, and you have had the information given to you, that the slaughtering industry in Britain and Scandinavian countries and in fact, in practically all the nations of Europe has been for some time immobilizing and making insensible to pain all animals and poultry before bleeding and slaughter.

A number of companies, including some of the largest in the slaughtering industry in this country, already have adopted humane methods of slaughter in part of all of their operations.

You are familiar with George A. Hormel & Co., which immobilizes hogs by the use of carbon dioxide gas and the Seitz Packing Co., of St. Joseph, Mo., which makes use of the captive bolt pistol in place of the sledge.

In 1952, the then new Hormel method of carbon dioxide immobilization of hogs was introduced to the packing industry. There was apparently an enthusiastic reception to the information made available and yet, in 1957, Hormel is the only packer which has made additional installations.

Since this innovation went into practical operation, millions of pigs have gone to slaughter in other plants in the old-fashioned hoist and slit process.

Yet it is apparent that Hormel has found the method practical, economical and, even, I believe, profitable.

There are other practical ways available for achieving humane slaughter. The captive-bolt pistol is used by a considerable number of packers. Electric stunning and carbon dioxide immobilization before slaughter in the poultry packing industry is used in several plants.

The Remington humane stunning instrument has undergone extensive field tests by Swift and Armour and has been used successfully on thousands of head of cattle.

With typical American ingenuity and know-how, it will undoubtedly be perfected and made available to all packers in the near future.

This instrument stuns cattle with a precision blow with vastly superior results to the widely used sledge. This unit should get much faster acceptance than the carbon dioxide apparatus because it is relatively inexpensive.

We wish to acknowledge the leadership of some of the major packers who have tested this stunning instrument in spite of discouragement due to early mechanical difficulty; but we feel that other packers might also become discouraged and abandon use of this method rather than persevere without legislative compulsion.

Those packers using humane methods have found that morale among the employees is improved, stock bruising is reduced, and profits are likely to be increased.

The American Humane Association has sought to encourage those packers who have voluntarily adopted humane methods by issuing a seal of approval.

Several small packers have received or are about to receive this approval. Two of the major packers will soon be using humane methods in the slaughter of one or another species of livestock and we will seek to give recognition of their outstanding efforts.

It is our belief, however, that to protect these progressive packers and to bring all segments of the industry to the acceptance of the advantages of humane slaughter, we must have the compulsion of law.

The public, the press, many Members of Congress, and even the packing industry itself has admitted the need for the adoption of humane methods as rapidly as possible.

The proposed law, while it involves compulsion, does not predicate unfair demands or regimentation. More than one method will be available and the recommendations will be based on careful study by the Secretary of Agriculture and an advisory committee representing concerned interests.

Humane slaughter should be profitable in the long run to the packing industry because kindness is good public relations and good business.

We are sure that the packers would like to eliminate the cruelty which now exists, but harsh killing methods have been taken for granted because they have been practiced for years.

Voluntary committees of the packers and the humane societies will continue studies to develop new methods and improve on the existing ones.

Congress, by its concern with this problem, in the Senate hearings last year and in these hearings today, has recognized the need for action. The public is awaiting the congressional decision.

Now is the time to support the acknowledged need for humane slaughter with the force of law. We urge you to act favorably upon compulsory humane slaughter legislation.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you so much, Mr. Phillips.

Mr. PHILLIPS. Thank you.

Mr. POAGE. I believe that Mr. Macfarlane, who is also with your group, will be heard at this time.

**STATEMENT OF JOHN C. MACFARLANE, DIRECTOR, LIVESTOCK
CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY
FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

Mr. MACFARLANE. My name is John C. Macfarlane, director, Livestock Conservation Department of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and also a member of the board and executive committee of the Livestock Conservation, Inc., and a field director of the New England Livestock Conservation, Inc.

My office is at 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston, Mass., and I am also a member of the humane slaughter study committee, sponsored by the American Meat Institute.

Mr. Chairman, members of the subcommittee of the House Agriculture Committee, it is right that we consider the problem facing you today as a very old problem—not as a new one. It is also right that we consider in its true meaning the fact that only a very few of our largest meatpacking companies have ever chosen to give freely of their time, money, and effort to the research and education which would be necessary to bring about better slaughtering techniques.

Field investigations which I have conducted over the past 30 years have convinced me of several truths. It is true that many years ago hundreds of meatpacking plants bought one or more of the European captive bolt type instruments or free bullet instruments and then promptly placed these new tools in a drawer or hung them on a wall where they were soon all but forgotten.

In any event, they were not used very long for the purpose for which they were originally purchased.

In the year 1917 much of our cattle slaughtering was done with live ammunition, but because live ammunition was dangerous to humans, its general practice soon stopped.

Shortly thereafter there were several new ideas developed and advertised in the United States by their European inventors and manufacturers:

The Swedish pistol Formator, made in Stockholm, Sweden, the Stoff pistol, made in Erfurt, Germany, the Temple-Cox and the Cash-X penetrating pistols, made in England—England also produced a 380-mm. revolver, the Greener pistol, and the Royal S. P. C. A. Humane Killer, these last three firing live bullets.

Electricity was used and still is in many European countries to induce unconsciousness in all classes of livestock.

Methods of applying electricity vary from one country to another. The most impressive technique I observed in Europe was the one developed by a Dutch slaughterer in Rotterdam, who used a voltage

control and a steady flow of 70 volts with 600 milliamps for 15 seconds or longer on all hogs.

He used 185 volts on sheep and calves for instantaneous shock and 300 volts on cattle for instantaneous shock.

These and many other devices have been available to the United States meat slaughterers for many years, but for one reason or another these new devices did not seem to meet with the acceptance or approval of most of our packers.

Some of the expressed reasons for not adopting these European developments were based upon sound thinking. We know, for instance, that the techniques used by a slaughterhouse killing 10 or 20 animals a day could not be applied to the slaughterhouse killing 50 to 200 or more per hour.

Other expressed reasons were, in my opinion, predicated upon a strong and very often arbitrary determination not to make any changes whatsoever in killing techniques, on the premise that to make any change would be to increase the cost of operation.

This argument has held sway since the turn of the century in entirely too many cases.

We know that, should it become mandatory under Federal law to kill food animals in a manner that is rapid, effective, and humane, less than 500 slaughterhouses will be effected throughout the United States.

In all fairness to those packers who have given cooperation and have shown a sincere desire to search out better killing methods, Swift and Armour lead all the other major packers in my opinion.

Some of our major packers have shown no interest whatsoever in any new ideas concerning humane slaughter as such, to the point where some of them have not once indicated a desire to even see the new Remington Humane Stunner, notwithstanding the fact that Swift and Armour are equipping their beef killing plants with these new tools as rapidly as plant changes and tool production will permit.

The Remington Arms Humane Stunner has proven itself to be rapid, effective, and humane. While it is still being improved upon through Remington Arms' research and development and with packer cooperation, many thousands of tests already indicate that its immediate use is not only rapid, effective, and humane, but that it is also safe and economical.

In spite of all the available evidence to prove that this particular tool is humane and acceptable by the Meat Inspection Branch of the United States Department of Agriculture, I certainly do not believe that beef slaughterers in general will adopt its use unless they are compelled to do so either by pressure from the public or by law.

The Temple-Cox and the Cash-X penetrating captive bolt pistols have been used successfully for many years in Europe and by a few plants in our own country.

We know that they can be used effectively by all packers who do not save animal brain as a salable byproduct and by those who do not face economic loss from holes being punched through the pate leather.

Packing plant history forces us to believe that even these penetrating bolt-type tools will never be accepted unless the law indicates that they constitute some of several acceptable methods for packers to choose from.

We know that the Meat Inspection Branch of the United States Department of Agriculture will not accept electric shocking or electro-narcosis because of the so-called indistinguishable lesions or extravasations found in the animal brain, lung, and/or other organs.

I believe, however, that electronarcosis can be practical where it is used on hogs, sheep, and calves by a small packer whose daily "kill" numbers only a few animals, like the very small butcher in Cedarsburg, Wis., where I visited recently, whose weekly kill is less than 60 animals.

This man can afford the time to apply electrodes to the heads of hogs for 15 seconds or longer or until the real legs of the animal stiffen out, using an electrical charge of not more than 70 volts.

I am in agreement with the large packers who say that they cannot use electricity because of the long periods of time necessary to induce unconsciousness.

I am also in agreement with those authorities who maintain that a "shock" type of electric stunning is not acceptable because I know from personal experience that where 185 volts are used, blood spots, splashing, and petechial hemorrhages appear in the organs and in the meat of the hog so stunned.

I would like now to present the policy of my organization for the record:

The society I represent, and its thousands of members, condemns wholeheartedly all cruel slaughter practices, especially the suspension by one leg of a living, conscious animal and the frequent application of electric shock to the flesh adjacent to the rectum in order to immobilize the animal while a hind leg is being shackled.

These practices are often witnessed in all types of slaughterhouses. The present bills now being considered would preclude such practices, excepting only slaughter under Kosher and Mohammedan laws. These methods, however, are not a part of the ritualistic slaughtering techniques.

We recommend an amendment to Mr. Dawson's bill, No. 3029, which would provide for use of the Dyne casting pen or some similar device which would eliminate the necessity of suspending living conscious animals. (The casting pen is a method which is acceptable to those of Jewish faith in England and in Scandinavian countries.)

And further, that the amendment require that the cutting of the throat of a living conscious animal shall be used only for the adherents of a religion which does not permit prior stunning.

In the bill submitted by the Honorable Martha W. Griffiths, I suggest that the word "officer" on line 17, page 3, be replaced by the word "representative."

With this one correction, I would favor bill No. 176.

In the bill submitted by Mr. Miller of California, I submit the same constructive criticism, that the word "officer" on line 17, page 3, be replaced by the word "representative."

I do also favor this bill, No. 2880.

In the bill submitted by Mr. Dawson, I offer the following constructive criticisms, line 16, page 2, reads as follows: "The term

'approved methods' of slaughtering, which means any of the following," and then on line 3, page 3, the bill further states "slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any religious faith."

I suggest that Mr. Dawson reword these two paragraphs and that his bill and all similar bills emphasize that—

nothing in this bill shall apply to any qualified slaughterer slaughtering food animals in accordance with the requirements of any established religious faith.

I further suggest that this paragraph be inserted either between E and F on page 2, or that it be inserted between sections 4 and 5 on page 3. With these suggested changes, I would then approve of Mr. Dawson's bill, No. 3029.

In the bill submitted by Mr. Hiestand, I offer the following remarks:

The Honorable Mr. Hiestand has submitted a bill which meets the desires and wishes of all humanitarians more closely perhaps than any of the other bills being heard by this committee.

It is my humble opinion that twenty-odd million Americans who are in one way or another affiliated with the animal protective movement throughout these United States will agree with me.

I know that the many thousands of people who hold membership in my own organization think as I do.

The Massachusetts SPCA has always tried to be liberal and fair in all its deliberations. It has on many occasions gone out of its way to cooperate rather than condemn, and as the livestock representative of this, the largest humane organization of its kind in our country, I wholeheartedly endorse Mr. Hiestand's bill, No. 3049.

MR. POAGE. Thank you, Mr. Macfarlane.

MR. MACFARLANE. Mr. Chairman, I have in my hands a picture of the Dyne casting pen and a picture of the Remington stunner. May I please offer this?

MR. POAGE. We will be delighted to have it filed with the committee.

(The photograph will be found in the files of the committee.)

MR. POAGE. If there are no questions, we are very much obliged to you. We would like to discuss these matters at length but we realize that we have some 23 more witnesses to be heard in the 45 minutes remaining.

I have a list that has been handed me and I suppose there are many other people who have asked to be heard.

Apparently, there is no coordination here but I think we will go down to No. 7 to Dr. Barner.

Dr. R. D. Barner, professor of veterinary pathology. I am going to call Dr. Barner as the next witness, and then I am going to call the next witness who I will ask to be ready in order to save as much time as we can, because, frankly, I know that you cannot realize the pressure of time that is on the committee.

So, following Dr. Barner will be Mr. Leo Pfeffer. Is Mr. Pfeffer present?

MR. PFEFFER. Present.

MR. POAGE. All right now, Mr. Pfeffer, you will follow Dr. Barner.

STATEMENT OF DR. RALPH D. BARNER, PROFESSOR OF VETERINARY PATHOLOGY, COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MICH.

Dr. BARNER. I am Ralph D. Barner, teacher of veterinary pathology at the Michigan State University, College of Veterinary Medicine, East Lansing, Mich.

In the course of our routine work it is necessary that we destroy living animals rather frequently, using the dead cadaver as a means of arriving at a diagnosis, and using a word that Judge Griffiths made reference to here a year ago, I might say that in our post mortem laboratory we have the glass window and the farmers, pet owners, accompany their animals and, therefore, it is necessary that we destroy these animals to aid us in our diagnosis by the most humane means possible.

And commonsense and public opinion has compelled us to use humane methods.

We have been conducting for the past several years research work wherein we have been using electricity and carbon dioxide, as a means of bringing about the humane slaughter of animals.

I made a report here last year, I believe Judge Griffiths has that report, pertaining to this matter of hemorrhages as an aftermath of the use of electricity.

I might say that during the death struggle of healthy animals wherein they are killed in a routine manner by sticking, we have also observed hemorrhages, not unlike those that are observed following the means of electricity.

And in our midst we have a Colonel Anthony with whom I visited this past year at Marshman Baxter in Briar Hills, England, and, perhaps, he will have more to say on that matter. He has been using electricity there, I think, for a number of years, and he will have more on that.

More recently, we have been conducting research work using carbon dioxide as a means to euthanize cattle and calves, and we have extended that to hogs and also goats.

I might say that we have observed hemorrhages in those animals following the use of carbon dioxide. It seems that this matter of hemorrhage is related to the death struggle.

I might at this time present, I have been asked by the ladies of the Animal Welfare Institute, several instruments that are being used at the present time in various parts of the world, some of them in Michigan and other States, of course.

I have the cost of these.

The Cash-X bolt pistol which costs \$100, this is being used. I had hoped to show some slides. In this game we find that slides, visual aids, are worth—I think some Chinaman said, a picture is worth 10,000 words—and I had hoped to show some pictures here but in the interest of time we should dispense with those.

But we have quite a collection. And I might add that Mr. Lingle gave me permission to show some slides wherein he makes use of lights and the bolt pistol in destroying some of these fractious wild animals.

Here we have a Schermer stunner, which sells for \$150. I also have pictures of the use of this particular instrument in Denmark. It is

used quite extensively there for humanely stunning of horses and Red Danes, cattle.

Then we also have another instrument here that the Remington people have developed in conjunction with Mr. Macfarlane known as the Remington stunner.

I might say that the price on this is \$220. Perhaps Mr. Macfarlane—he has been developing this—could relate more information on this particular instrument to you.

I do not think I have anything more to add at this time.

Mr. POAGE. Unless you care to demonstrate how that is going to work.

(Off the record.)

Mr. MACFARLANE. This is quite versatile. This was developed—

Mr. KRUEGER. It isn't loaded; is it?

Mr. MACFARLANE. This was developed by Remington Arms in Bridgeport, Conn., as a result of a suggestion I made to them some 2½ years ago, if they could develop by concussion an instrument that would not penetrate through the frontal bone, that would knock it out, that I felt that the packers would buy it. I felt there would be a market for it. It is still in research.

However, as I indicated in my paper, Swift and Armour are equipping their beef-killing plants as rapidly as their plants are changing and production will permit. It has been proven to be effective, humane, safe.

However, no instrument is any better than the human counterpart associated with it.

One has been developed with safety features which makes it fairly foolproof. This is a safety switch or safety latch at the bottom. When it is compressed the firing mechanism lever is in line with this firing pin. It cannot be fired in this position.

So if the animal moves its head at the last minute and he wants to save that cartridge it will not fire. He merely touches to the point below the pole of the animal's head where by touching this it is fired.

I can fire it so that you will see what I mean. By touching it first, there is no swing necessary. Those packers who have given them to their knockers have all with few exceptions proclaimed it as a much easier instrument to use.

It gives the same foot-muscle energy pressure every time it is fired. It uses a blank cartridge with 3.8 grains of powder. They cost approximately 2.75 cents each.

Please do not misunderstand me. I am not selling this for Remington. I am merely explaining it to you.

I think that some of the packers may object to the fact that the cost of the cartridge is that high. For small packers who do not have a high volume of kill, those people would probably have to pay 5 cents apiece for them. But what price humanity?

It is a very good instrument. And I think today, so far as my records indicate, it has been used in the United States on approximately one-half million steers. That is, effectively.

We have not yet reached a point where the packers are completely satisfied with the brain because by concussion we cause surface hemorrhages of the lobes of the brain which in many cases make it impossible, for the packers who have a market, to sell brain for human food.

However, I think as the packers in the room may verify, approximately 40 to 45 percent of the brains are available.

Mr. POAGE. So that brings this question: Why is it that you get more brains that are not salable from this than you do with a hammer?

Mr. MACFARLANE. You do not. When you use a hammer, if the hammer is used more than once on a head, you usually smash or ruin the brain completely.

Mr. POAGE. That is what I was talking about the first time. You get the same.

Mr. MACFARLANE. You get hemorrhaging.

Mr. POAGE. You get concussion there.

Mr. MACFARLANE. That is right. I think the percentage of bloody brain by comparing the hammer with this, in all fairness to the man who uses the hammer properly and can do the job with one blow, which is not the national average by any means, would be that the brain of an animal stunned with the hammer properly would show less hemorrhaging than the brain of one stunned with this.

Mr. POAGE. Would it not be true that you would have exactly the same hemorrhaging in proportion to the power of the concussion? In other words, if you put less powder in your blank cartridge, you could get a slighter blow or a heavier blow, as you see fit?

Mr. MACFARLANE. Yes, sir; it can be done and is being done now. We are experimenting with powder loads ranging from less than 1 grain to 4 grains of powder.

As you all in this room know, the type of livestock slaughtered in the United States will vary between one section and another. Where they are slaughtering Angus steers, for instance, you will need a much more powerful load, than you would in New England where we kill dairy cattle.

And the damage to the brain is always to the opposite side of the brain from the point of impact, which is true in humans.

If someone were to hit us on the head, the opposite point, the rear of the area struck, would show hemorrhaging. That is true in animals.

Mr. POAGE. That is true when you are hit with the hammer?

Mr. MACFARLANE. That is right.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you very much.

Dr. BARNER. I have an additional remark, a very short one, I might add. I have made reference to a glass window in our veterinary post mortem diagnostic laboratory. We have an additional glass window in our newly constructed meats laboratory wherein students are in the process of destroying animals and carrying on with the other work of a meats department.

And I might say that at the present time Mrs. Christine Stevens, of the Animal Welfare Institute, and members of the animal husbandry department of Michigan State are negotiating with the idea in mind that we might be able to install a carbon dioxide immobilizing unit which I understand now has been placed on the market by Allbright-Nell, wherein a small unit, 60 hogs and under per hour could be immobilized at a cost of for this particular unit \$3,500.

We hope to install one at Michigan State.

Mr. POAGE. I overlooked one other witness. I wonder if you would stand by a minute.

Mr. Milburn is present; there has been a change on the list. We will therefore now hear him.

STATEMENT OF G. R. "JACK" MILBURN, GRASSRANGE, MONT., FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN, LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, AMERICAN NATIONAL CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Mr. MILBURN. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have a statement here that I think I can go through hurriedly.

I am G. R. "Jack" Milburn. I operate a cattle ranch near Grassrange, Mont., on which I raise commercial and purebred Aberdeen Angus cattle. I am first vice president of the American National Cattlemen's Association and chairman of their legislative committee.

I wanted to emphasize the fact that I live on this ranch. That is the only business I am occupied in. And I have lived with the cattle industry since 1919. That is all I know.

The American National Cattlemen's Association was organized in 1898. It is a voluntary association representing 28 State cattlemen's associations, more than 100 local and regional groups, and thousands of individual cattlemen.

At the 60th annual convention in Phoenix, Ariz., January 6-10, 1957, the association passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION No. 11—HUMANE SLAUGHTERING

Whereas the American Humane Association is backing legislation to force drastic changes in the methods of slaughtering food animals; and

Whereas the packers have for some time cooperated in a joint committee with the American Humane Association in improving methods of handling livestock: Therefore be it

Resolved, That we strongly favor humane treatment of livestock, but urge that progress in this matter be made through continued cooperation of packers and the humane association rather than through legislation.

In support of this resolution I wish to emphasize that cattlemen, by their very nature, are lovers of animals. If they were not, they would not be in the business. They, more than any other group, are interested in the humane handling of cattle from the time they are calved on the range until converted into beef.

We are in sympathy with the groups and individuals seeking to improve humane handling, transportation, and slaughter of cattle.

However, we feel that we must oppose enactment of H. R. 3029 at this time for a number of reasons, but particularly because cooperation and education will accomplish more than compulsory legislation toward achieving our common goal. We believe that such principles embodied, for instance, in legislation similar to H. R. 5820 will have a better chance of accomplishing these objectives.

Humaneness to animals is a matter of education, training and a moral philosophy—not compulsory legislation. More can be accomplished through a practical approach incorporating humane problems with good economic and efficient production of meat—an approach that is already on its way.

Since the beginning of the cattle business, there has been a steady improvement in the care and handling of cattle. Cattlemen long ago learned that the best-cared-for cattle are the most profitable. Facilities for their care and feeding have been and are being constantly improved.

Cattlemen are cooperating with railroads and truckers toward more humane handling of the stock between the ranch and the stockyards. Stockyards facilities are being improved constantly to avoid injury or death to livestock.

The American Humane Association and the meatpackers as individual firms and associations, particularly the American Meat Institute, have been working for some time toward the development of improved methods of slaughter which are practical and humane and which invite general acceptance by the entire packing industry. This cooperative effort is making real progress.

In view of this effective voluntary cooperation, we believe that the injection of compulsory legislation would only complicate an already complex situation, which can best be worked out through mutual understanding of the economic and humane problems that are involved.

We urge your committee to allow the joint committee of the American Humane Association and the meatpackers to continue the work that is so well started without being hampered by restrictive legislation at this time.

We who live with the cattle and raise them—raise them from calfhood to the time we sell them, and the best cattlemen, the majority of the cattlemen are very much concerned as to their welfare and their life on the ranch and their shipping and the slaughtering of them.

So I think it is needless to say that we should be considered as very much interested in the best and most humane method of destroying or slaughtering of livestock.

But we feel, as has been so well expressed by Dr. Clarkson of the Department of Agriculture, that your H. 3029 is a little bit drastic, it is compulsory. More time should be taken; that we approve of the wording of a bill or similar bill to H. R. 3820. And we feel that a little more time is needed for study, to determine the very best method of slaughtering.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you very much.

Mr. MILLBURN. Thank you.

Mr. POAGE. Now we will call Mr. Leo Pfeffer, and following Mr. Pfeffer I will ask Mrs. Griffiths to introduce a witness.

STATEMENT OF LEO PFEFFER, ATTORNEY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Mr. PFEFFER. Mr. Chairman, in order to save the committee's time all of the Jewish organizations have decided to combine in one statement and that statement will be presented by Rabbi Lewin.

But for the record I would like to indicate the presence of the delegates of the Jewish organizations, so that the names will be incorporated in the record.

Present here, although not testifying, will be Rabbi Michael Munk of the Research Institute; Mr. Ben Weitzer, legislative representative of the Jewish War Veterans; Rabbi Emanuel Holtzer of the Rabbi Council; Rabbi Davis Penitz of the Rabbinical Assembly, United Synagogue; Mr. Joseph M. Viener of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations; and Rabbi Pincas Teitz, of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada.

My name is Leo Pfeffer. I am acting as attorney for the 21 or so Jewish organizations who are listed on our statement, representing by far the overwhelming majority of members of the American Jewish community. I would suggest at least 80 percent of them. The combined statements of all of the organizations, as I said, to save the committee's time, will be presented by Rabbi Isaac Lewin, who is a member of the executive committee of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada.

He is a professor at the Yeshiva University at New York, a permanent representative to the Economic Council of the United Nations and a various number of Jewish organizations.

If there are any questions—should there be—asked after he testifies, I will be happy to answer them.

But the statement will be presented by Rabbi Lewin.

STATEMENT OF RABBI ISAAC LEWIN, MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, AND PROFESSOR AT YESHIVA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK; ACCOMPANIED BY RABBI PINCAS TEITZ

Rabbi LEWIN. My name is Rabbi Isaac Lewin. I am a member of the executive committee of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada and professor of Yeshiva University, New York. I speak today on behalf of the following Jewish organizations who join in this statement:

Agudas Harabbanim (Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada); Agudas Israel World Organization, American Section; Agudath Israel of America; American Jewish Congress; Association of Grand Rabbis; Central Conference of American Rabbis; Jewish Labor Committee; Jewish War Veterans of the U. S. A.; Mizrachi and Hapoel Hamizrachi of America; National Council of Young Israel; New York Board of Rabbis; Poale Agudath Israel of America; Rabbinical Alliance of America; Rabbinical Assembly of America; Rabbinical Board of Greater New York; Rabbinical Council of America; Research Institute of Religious Jewry; Synagogue Council of America; Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America; United Synagogue of America; and the National Community Relations Advisory Council, which is a coordinating agency for some of the above national organizations and 36 regional, State, and local Jewish community councils throughout the country.

On behalf of these organizations, I am here to state our opposition to bills H. R. 176, H. R. 2880, H. R. 3029, H. R. 3049, H. R. 6422, and H. R. 6509.

We oppose these bills because all of them give a completely false impression of the Jewish kosher method of slaughtering animals (shehitah) and may become the basis of restriction against one of the most important precepts of the Jewish faith, thus endangering a primary civil liberty—freedom of religion.

Bills H. R. 176 and H. R. 2880 provide for stunning of livestock prior to its slaughtering by—

mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary (of Agriculture) to be rapid, effective, and humane.

In the case of poultry, the bills require that the fowl be first—
rendered insensible by the severing of the head from the body or by an electrical or other means determined by the Secretary (of Agriculture) to be rapid, effective, and humane.

Paragraph (c) of section 2 then provides that the—
requirements of this section shall not apply to any individual slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any established religious faith.

Bill H. R. 3029 has a different text. It mentions three “approved” methods of slaughtering. The first is after stunning—

by mechanical, electrical, chemical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane.

The second, referring to poultry, is that of—
instantaneous severing of the head from the body or, if poultry is otherwise cut or stuck, by first rendering such poultry insensible by mechanical, electrical, or other means determined by the Secretary to be rapid, effective, and humane.

The third is—
slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any religious faith.

Bill H. R. 3049 recognizes two so-called “humane methods of slaughtering” which are equivalent to the first two “approved methods” of bill H. R. 3029, with the added clause:

Provided, however, That nothing in this act shall prohibit slaughtering in accordance with the practices and requirements of the Jewish religious faith by a qualified slaughterer, commonly called a shohet, authorized to engage in such slaughtering by an ordained rabbi of the Jewish religious faith.

There can be no doubt that in formulating the bill as a general rule providing for the use of humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry, with an exception for the—

individual slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any established religious faith—

as in some bills (H. R. 176 and 2880) are for the—

slaughtering in accordance with the practices and requirements of the Jewish religious faith by a qualified slaughterer, commonly called a shohet, authorized to engage in such slaughtering by an ordained rabbi of the Jewish religious faith—

as in other bills—there arises the inescapable implication that—

slaughtering in accordance with the requirements of any established religious faith—

or

slaughtering in accordance with the practices and requirements of the Jewish religious faith—

are inhumane but are permitted only because they are prescribed by religion.

This false and defamatory implication must be categorically rejected.

Jewish religious practices require that any animal whose meat is to be used for food must be slaughtered in accordance with specific and detailed requirements.

A religious Jew will refrain from eating any meat rather than eat nonkosher meat.

The person who slaughters the animal in accordance with Jewish ritual is called a shohet. His is a religious function, and he must meet very high moral, religious, and educational qualifications.

This process of Jewish method of slaughter and the qualifications of a shohet were described by the Chief Rabbi of Israel, Dr. Herzog, as follows:

The Jewish method consists of cutting the throat of the animal with a single swift and uninterrupted sweep of the knife, which is of more than surgical sharpness and smoothness, horizontally, across the throat in such manner that it severs the trachea, esophagus, carotid arteries and jugular veins.

The knife edge must be perfect, without the least perceptible unevenness, indentation, or roughness. The knife must be minutely examined by a specific method before killing to test its sharpness and smoothness.

It must also be examined after killing and if any indentation is found, the beast is regarded as having been improperly slaughtered and its flesh is "nebelah," i. e., is regarded from the standpoint of our dietary laws like the flesh of an animal which died of itself (carrion) and may not be consumed by Jews. The knife must be twice as long as the breadth of the neck of the animal; for larger cattle 14-finger breadths.

The slaughtering of animals for Jewish consumption must be carried out by an educated, refined, and cultured man, known to be God fearing, who is appointed an official of the community, properly trained, duly licensed, authorized and supervised by the religious head of the community, whose duty it is in the case of the slaughterer's misconduct or inefficiency to suspend him or even to annul his license.

This commandment is derived not only from the Torah (Bible) with its famous prescriptions concerning Sabbath rest for animals and human being alike, or with its prohibition against muzzling oxen while they are threshing the grain, or against killing the cow or the lamb and their young both on the same day.

The Talmud which, sanctified by the centuries, is the source of Jewish religious law, proclaims that the perpetration of cruelty upon animals is forbidden by Scripture ("Tzaar baaley chayim d'oray-tha"—causing pain to animals is forbidden by the Torah).

The Talmud even prohibited the owner of an animal from partaking of food before he had fed his beast. It also deprecated hunting for sport.

And according to a standard medieval ethical work *Sefer Chassidim* (Book of the Saints):

man will be called to account for any pain he has caused an animal; e. g., loading upon it a burden too heavy for it to carry or striking it when it cannot move.

Maimonides, the first and greatest Jewish codifier, and a famed physician in his day, in his *Guide for the Perplexed*, declared the following with regard to religious slaughter of animals:

The commandment concerning the killing of animals is necessary, because the natural food of man consists of vegetables and of the flesh of animals; the best meat is that of animals permitted to be used as food.

No doctor has any doubts about this. Since, therefore, the desire of procuring good food necessitates the slaying of animals, the law enjoins that the death of the animal should be the easiest.

It is not allowed to torment the animal by cutting the throat in a clumsy manner, by poleaxing, or by cutting off a limb whilst the animal is alive.

Modern experts, mostly non-Jewish, have carefully studied the Jewish method of slaughter and their testimonies have been published.

Many of them are contained in the book *Religious Freedom: The Right To Practice Shehitah*, published by the Research Institute of Religious Jewry in New York in 1946.

More than 800 notable authorities in the field of physiology, pathology, and anatomy, heads of veterinary schools have so testified. May I mention here only some of them:

Prof. Auguste Krogh, of the Physiological Institute of Copenhagen, Nobel Prize winner of 1926, wrote as follows:

In reply to the question of the Jewish method of slaughter from the physiological point of view the sudden severance of the carotid arteries, the main point of Shehitah, causes such immediate and complete drainage of arterial blood that the brain centers are paralyzed very quickly, at longest in a few seconds.

There is apparently a shock suspending all consciousness and arresting the eye reflect. The flow of blood to the brain by the vertebral arteries is exceedingly feeble owing to drainage from the severed carotids; arterial pressure to the brain is extremely low since, subsequent to the opening of the carotids, there is only a trickle of blood.

Shortly after, the muscles begin to work violently; at first with coordinated movements, then irregularly. These movements could probably be suppressed by a blow on the nape of the neck or the head, a shock that would act automatically on the medulla oblongata.

I must, however, assert emphatically that this is without importance or effect for the consciousness, which is destroyed instantaneously by Shehitah.

The movements taking place during the last stage of drainage of the blood obviously play an important part in the blood evacuation, and if they were checked the last phase would undoubtedly take much longer, while the blood letting would be less complete, since the circulation to the heart would be interfered with.

Having been personally at Jewish slaughterings and having had occasion to observe the animals, I do not hesitate to declare that the Jewish method of slaughter is a proceeding fulfilling every requirement demanded by the dictates of mercy.

Sir C. A. Lovatt Evans, professor of physiology at London University, made the following statement:

My opinion as a physiologist is that I should think this method is as humane as any other method in use or likely to be brought into use for the purpose.

My reason for regarding the method as practically painless is based on two things:

- (1) Commonsense; and
- (2) A knowledge of physiology.

Commonsense tells me that if the animal suffered he would kick immediately the cut was made. As everyone who has ever witnessed the act is well aware, the animal lies absolutely still the moment the vessels are severed, and it is only a minute or so later that asphyxial convulsions set in. Consciousness, we know, is lost long before this.

On physiological principles, again, it is clear that when such large vessels are severed, the arterial blood pressure falls at once to a very low level, and, moreover, the carotid arteries being severed, much of the blood supply to the brain is immediately lost.

The remaining vessels to the brain, in any case, even at the normal arterial pressure, supply only a fraction of the blood, and with the immediate fall of blood pressure this fraction is still further reduced; the result is, I think, almost immediate loss of consciousness.

The fact that the conjunctival reflex persists is, as everyone knows, absolutely no criterion of the existence of consciousness. To consider that the animal suffers appreciable pain is, in my opinion, quite absurd. I consider the method to be equal to any.

Lord Horder, G. C. V. O., M. D., F. R. C. P., wrote on February 3, 1955, as follows:

In January 1940 I was asked by the board of deputies of British Jews to give my opinion on the character of the slaughtering of cattle for food after the Jewish fashion.

I made careful observations of the process called shehitah. I reported as follows:

The animal to be killed is isolated from the rest, placed in a padded pen which is rotated so as to bring the neck of the beast into position for the shohet's operation.

This consists in a clean and instantaneous cutting off all the blood vessels of the neck together with the windpipe and gullet—in fact all the soft structures up to the spine.

The animal loses consciousness immediately. It is difficult to conceive a more painless and a more rapid mode of death.

For a few seconds after the cut is made the animal makes no movement. Its body is then convulsed; the convulsive movements continue for about a minute and then cease.

The interpretation of these facts is clear. The cut is made by a knife so sharp and so skillfully handled that a state of syncope, with its associated unconsciousness, follows instantaneously upon the severing of the blood vessels, the rapid loss of blood, and the consequent great fall in blood pressure.

The movements of the animal, which begin about 90 seconds after the cut and continue for about 90 seconds, are epileptiform in nature and are due to the bloodless state of the brain (cerebral ischaemia with complete anosaemia). Sensation has been abolished at the moment of the initial syncope.

Careful and critical scrutinizing of this method of slaughtering leaves me in no doubt whatever that it is fraught with less risk of pain to the animal than any other method at present practiced.

I was asked to repeat my observations with a view to a new statement which should be identical with this opinion or modify it if necessary. I made these new observations on January 27 last (1955), and I have no modification to make in my original statement.

Sir William Bayliss, M. A., D. S. C., LL. D., F. R. S., professor of general physiology in the University College, London:

I visited the abattoirs at the Metropolitan Cattle Market at Islington when a large number of animals were being killed. I directed special attention to the Jewish method. I arrived at the following conclusions:

The Jewish use of the knife is a humane method of slaughter, which compares favorably with any other process. The result of the cut made by the Jewish expert is to produce immediate insensibility, from which the animal does not recover.

The pain, if any, is momentary, and at the worst is but slight. This is a fact well known to surgeons and to those who cut themselves with an excessively sharp knife. The effect of the cut is to produce unconsciousness by instantaneous cessation of the supply of fresh blood to the brain, and to drain the body of blood.

The description of the method as "bleeding an animal to death," is, in my opinion, unfair. It omits to express the fact that the bleeding animal is throughout incapable of sensation and that the bleeding is very rapid.

Leonard Hill, director of Department of Applied Physiology, National Institute for Medical Research in England, made the following statement:

Several years ago I made a special study of the cerebral circulation, and later inquired into the methods of slaughtering at a time when the Jewish method was called into question by an Admiralty committee.

All the evidence shows that complete cessation of bloodflow in the brain immediately abolishes consciousness in man, whether this be brought about by sudden compression of the carotid arteries in the neck, cutting of these arteries, or pressure applied to the brain.

The very name "carotid" betokens the sleep which the ancients knew could be produced by compression of these arteries in a goat. Boys who accidentally kill themselves by playing at hanging do so because the pressure of the rope on these arteries suddenly deprives them of consciousness, and then they die of asphyxia, the weight of the unconscious body compressing the windpipe.

Similarly it is very dangerous to breathe deoxygenated air because the loss of consciousness from want of oxygen is sudden and no warning sign is given.

The brain loses its highest function, viz, consciousness, instantly on deprivation of oxygen, while all the lower functions of the nervous system and other organs continue to act for some time.

Now the Jewish method of slaughter consists in the sudden cutting of the neck right back to the bone, including the carotid arteries and jugular vein, the highly trained official using a very sharp knife.

At once the whole of the blood is spilt out of the brain, and consciousness is abolished. No death could be more merciful, taking into account the fact that the animal, unlike man, has no knowledge of fear or impending death.

The following are some of the additional experts who have certified that shehitah is a humane method of slaughtering:

Lord Joseph Lister, professor of physiology, University of London, "father of modern antiseptic surgery":

To charge the Jews with cruelty in this matter seems to me grossly unjust.

Th. W. Englemann, director of the Physiological Institute, University of Berlin:

Both in the interests of hygiene and humanity, shehitah is to be preferred to the methods of slaughter usually recommended.

J. Orth, director of the Pathological Institute of the Friedrich-Wilhelm University:

Like many other pathologists I perceive no cruelty to animals in the ritual method of slaughter, but am of the opinion that * * * it is preferable to other methods.

Professor Rubner, director of the Institute of Hygiene, Berlin University:

In the application of the method of shehitah I can see no cruelty to animals.

Professor Hertwig, director of the Anatomic Biological Institute, Berlin University:

I associate myself with the opinion of numerous physiologists and pathologists that no cruelty to animals is involved in the method of shehitah.

Professor R. Du Bois-Reymond, director of the Department of Specialized Physiology in the Physiological Institute, Berlin University:

Shehitah can appear cruel only to those who * * * have an erroneous conception of the manner in which death ensues in the case of an animal slaughtered by this method.

W. Nagel, director of the Physical Department of the Physiological Institute, Berlin University:

Shehitah, carried out in the requisite expert manner, I do not consider involves cruelty to animals.

E. Salkowski, privy medical councilor, director of the Chemical Laboratory of the Pathological Institute, Berlin University:

From the standpoint of humanity shehitah is unobjectionable. On the contrary, as death ensues very rapidly the method is to be regarded as eminently humane.

Hans Virchow, professor of anatomy, Berlin University:

Involves no cruelty to animals, as consciousness is almost immediately lost.

F. Roehmann, director of the Chemical Laboratory of the Physiological Institute, Breslau University:

The agitation against shehitah is not justified by the facts. * * * Involves no cruelty to animals.

L. Gerlach, director of the Anatomical Institute, Erlanger University:

A thoroughly humane method of slaughter, absolutely unsuggestive of cruelty to animals.

L. Aschoff, professor of pathological anatomy, director of the Pathological Institute, Freiburg:

Produces speedy unconsciousness.

R. Wiedersheim, director of the Institute of Anatomy and Comparative Anatomy, Freiburg:

There can be no question of cruelty.

Dr. Bostroem, director of the Pathological Institute, Giessen:

Shehitah is to be preferred to all other methods of slaughter.

Von Esmarch, director of the Institute of Hygiene, Goettingen University:

Involves no cruelty to animals, but is a method of slaughter thoroughly in accordance with the dictates of humanity.

Dr. Merkel, director of the Anatomical Institute, Goettingen University:

Thoroughly free from any kind of cruelty to animals.

Georg Schneidemuehl, professor of comparative pathology, Kiel University:

Can see in shehitah no cruelty to animals.

J. Rueckert, chairman of the council of the Royal Anatomical Institute, Munich:

Cannot be regarded as cruel, because the severance of the arteries of the throat produces immediate anemia of the brain and consequent unconsciousness.

R. Kobert, director of the Institute of Pharmacology and Physiological Chemistry, Rostock University:

I have long since settled the question in my own mind that shehitah expertly practiced is no cruelty to animals.

Dr. Langendorff, director of the Physiological Institute, Rostock University:

I have no doubt at all that the ritual method of slaughter is to be preferred to all other methods as being the best adapted to its purpose and the least cruel.

Dr. von Grutzner, director of the Pathological Institute, Tuebingen University:

Is not only the best and safest method of slaughter, but owing to its simplicity gives the animal the minimum of pain * * * I hope that very soon all animals will be slaughtered by the throat cut.

Anton Von Generisch, director of the Pathological-Anatomical Institute, Budapest University:

By no means cruel; produces speedy and certain death.

H. Preisz, director of the Bacteriological Institute, Budapest University:

There can be no question of cruelty to animals.

H. Eppinger, director of the Pathological-Anatomical Institute, Graz:

The most suitable method of slaughter * * * Involves no cruelty.

M. Holl, director of the Department of Anatomy, Graz:

An absolutely unobjectionable method of slaughter. * * * superior to all other methods.

Sanitary Councilor Klemsiewicz, professor of general experimental pathology, Graz:

Both from the hygienic and humanitarian standpoints shehitah is superior to all other methods.

A. Lode, director of the Institute of Hygiene, Innsbruck University:

There can be no question of cruelty to animals. * * * Shehitah is not only desirable but, from the standpoint of the better lasting properties of well-drained meat, is superior to all other methods of slaughter.

Joseph Loete, professor of general pathology and anatomy, Kolozsvár:

I should regard that man as lucky who could go to his death with as little pain as an animal killed by the Jewish rite.

Adolf Beck, director of the Physiological Institute, Lemberg University:

The absolute minimum of suffering. * * * Produces immediate loss of consciousness.

P. Kucera, director of the Institute of Hygiene, Lemberg University:

Absolutely no cruelty * * * with regard to the quality and preservation of meat, the speedy complete evacuation of blood by shehitah can only be regarded as favorable.

F. Mares, professor of physiology, Prague University:

Anemia of the brain is the most gentle and natural mode of anesthesia.

Dr. Spira, professor of experimental pathology, Prague University:

The objections to the method of the throat cut on the ground of cruelty to animals are unjustified.

Siegmund Exner, professor of physiology, Vienna University:

One of the gentlest ways of killing an animal.

W. Kolle, professor of hygiene and bacteriology, director of the Institute for Investigation of Infectious Diseases, Berne University:

Represents an unobjectionable method of slaughter both from the hygienic and humanitarian standpoints.

H. Kronecker, professor of physiology, director of the Physiological Institute, Berne University:

I entirely share the views of my colleagues as to the humanity of shehitah.

H. Strasser, director of the Anatomical Institute, Berne University:

The safest method of producing as painless and speedy a death as possible.

* * * There can be no question of cruelty to animals.

H. Christiani, professor of hygiene and director of the Public Health Bureau, Geneva University:

Is not inferior to other methods.

I. L. Prevost, professor of physiology, Geneva University:

No more cruel than the methods usually employed. Presents great advantages for securing good quality meat by more effectually evacuating the blood than in the case of an animal previously stunned.

L. Bolk, director of the Anatomical Institute, Amsterdam University:

I emphatically deny that this represents cruelty to animals.

T. Place, professor of physiology, Amsterdam University :

The best method of slaughtering, and therefore in every respect preferable.

W. Einthoven, professor of physiology and director of the Physiological Laboratory, Leyden University :

Cannot be described as cruelty to animals, and represents a sure and speedy method of slaughter.

J. W. Langelann, director the anatomical faculty, Layden University :

Shehitah is one of the best, perhaps the best, method * * * is far from being cruel to animals.

C. H. C. Spronck, director of the Pathological Institute, Utrecht University.

A humane method of slaughter. * * * The Jewish method is so desirable that it should be universally adopted.

Christian Bohr, professor of physiology, Copenhagen University :

No justification for the charge of cruelty.

Car Jul. Salomonsen, professor of general pathology, Copenhagen University :

There can be no question of any consciousness on the part of the animal.

Giulio Fano, director of the Physiological Laboratory, Florence :

Deserves preference in every respect.

P. Grassi, director of the Institute for Comparative Anatomy, Rome University :

Certainly deserves the preference. Attacks on shehitah are actuated not so much by sympathy for the animal as by anti-Semitic prejudice.

B. Bang, professor at the Royal High School for Veterinary Science and Agriculture and Veterinary Surgery, Copenhagen :

I adhere to my previously expressed opinion as to the value of the Jewish method of slaughter.

C. O. Jensen, professor of general pathology and pathological anatomy at the Royal High School for Veterinary Science and Agriculture, Copenhagen :

I adhere in every respect to my opinion as to the humanity of the Jewish method.

Dr. Esser, director of the Veterinary Clinic, Goettingen University, formerly district veterinary surgeon :

A humane method, satisfying all the requirements of humanity to animals. * * * The possibility of cruelty is out of the question.

Dr. Olt, professor of veterinary medicine, Giessen University :

Shehitah is the best method.

Dr. Martin, professor of veterinary medicine, Giessen University :

I cannot approve of the continued attacks on the Jewish method of slaughter.

Dr. Rubeli, professor of veterinary medicine, Berne University :

I still adhere to my previously expressed opinion as to the humanity of shehitah.

Joseph Szpilman, rector of the Royal Veterinary College, Lemberg :

Very desirable, if shehitah * * * could be generally employed.

J. Burger, district and court veterinary surgeon, retired, Coburg:

Neither shehitah, nor the preliminary operations, therefore, are to be regarded as cruelty to animals.

Veterinary Councilor Heyne, departmental veterinary surgeon, District Posen:

Cannot be regarded as cruel; it is neither more painful nor cruel than the method of slaughter involving preliminary stunning.

J. Rosenthal, director of the Institute of Physiology, University of Erlangen:

Shehitah, one of the best methods of sparing the animal to be killed unnecessary suffering, and of producing unconsciousness as speedily as possible.

Dr. Dammann, director of the Veterinary College, Hanover:

There is therefore no justification in characterizing death from hemorrhage as torture. On the contrary, shehitah entirely satisfies the requirements of the societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals—a very proper and ethical requirement—that animals must be killed by the quickest and most merciful method possible.

Shehitah has the great advantage of never failing, but invariably swiftly and unerringly achieving its object.

Carl Mueller, department veterinary surgeon, retired, Stettin:

For the animal shehitah is the least painful and cruel; hygienically it is the most advantageous and suitable * * * the general introduction of the Jewish method can be recommended as eminently desirable.

Veterinary Councilor Wallmann, department veterinary surgeon, District Erfurt:

From the humanitarian and sanitary standpoints it is to be regarded as the most perfect method of slaughter.

M. A. Chauveau, member of the institute, inspector general of veterinary colleges, professor at the Natural History Museum, Paris:

All the depositions made by the physiologists go to prove that shehitah is not more cruel than other methods of slaughter—indeed, one may assert that it is less cruel to slaughter animals according to the Jewish method than to kill them by any other of the customary modes of procedure.

V. Pollinger, director of the Pathological Institute, University of Munich:

Ritual slaughtering of animals, performed in the requisite expert manner, satisfies the requirements of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and is equal to other methods of slaughtering animals.

Max Borst, director of the Pathological Institute, Wuerzburg:

I consider shehitah, rightly performed, to rank with any modern method of slaughter. * * * Involves no cruelty to animals.

Alfred Trawinski, professor at the Veterinary Academy, Lwow:

The prescriptions issued by Moses and the Jewish Talmudists (concerning shehitah) conform to the general principles of modern surgery, "cito, tuto, iucunde," that its performance should be speedy, certain, and painless.

Dr. J. Bongert, director of the Institute of Nutritional Science, Veterinary College, Berlin:

When the animals are slaughtered by a qualified Jewish official (shohet) in the manner prescribed by the Jewish ritual no cruelty to animals can be seen in this mode of slaughter.

Dr. M. Cremer, director of the Physiological Institute, Veterinary College, Berlin :

After what has been said I can perceive no cruelty to animals in shehitah.

Dr. M. Rubner, director, Physiological Institute, Berlin :

To sum up, I maintain the decision given by me in 1908, namely, that no cruelty to animals can be perceived in the practice of shehitah.

Dr. W. Klein, professor at the Institute for Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene at the College of Agriculture, Bonn :

In my opinion the prohibition of shehitah according to rite as a method of slaughter must appear to any unbiased expert to be wholly absurd.

C. A. Lovatt Evans, professor of physiology at London University :

My opinion as a physiologist is that I should think this method is as humane as any other in use, or likely to be brought into use.

I should be happy to think that my own end were likely to be as swift and painless as the end of these cattle killed in this way undoubtedly is.

I should say that it is granted to few human beings to make their exodus in so swift and painless a manner.

Jewish religious law requires that the animal be in a state of health and shall not have suffered any injury in a vital organ prior to the act of shehitah.

Any method of rendering the animal insensitive produces or may produce such lesions or injuries.

Many noted authorities, most of whom are not Jewish, have established that shehitah is at least as humane as any other method of slaughtering, including rendering the animal insensitive by mechanical, electrical, or chemical means.

For example, Sir C. S. Lovatt Evans, D. S. C., F. R. S., emeritus professor of physiology at London University said categorically :

My opinion as a physiologist is that I should think this method is as humane as any other method in use or likely to be brought into use for the purpose.

Sir William Bayliss, M. A., D. S. C., LL. D., F. R. S., professor of general physiology in the University College, London, was equally emphatic :

The Jewish use of the knife is a humane method of slaughter which compares favorably with any other process.

It is not surprising that within the Jewish community there is such unanimity of opposition to the bills being considered by this committee.

There is a sorrowful history behind legislation such as this. We do not impugn in the slightest the motives of the proponents of the bills before this committee.

Unfortunately, however, the motivations of those who have pressed for legislation such as this in other countries and at other times have not been as benevolent.

For many years the false slander that shehitah is inhumane has been used as a weapon by those who would exterminate the Jewish people.

It is significant that one of the first acts of the Nazis upon securing power in Germany was to promulgate laws forbidding shehitah under the guise of humane considerations.

In every country that came under Nazi domination and control one of the first laws to be promulgated was a law banning shehitah.

In Norway, for example, the principal proponent of the antishehitah was a collaborator of the notorious Major Quisling.

Our concern is further heightened by the fact that even in England where shehitah is exempt from the humane slaughtering law, that law has been used as a springboard for a continuous campaign to label shehitah as inhumane and to ban it.

For these reasons we respectfully express our opposition to the measures before this committee.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, a few words as an American. Mrs. Griffiths, the distinguished author of one of the bills now on the agenda, testified before the Senate Subcommittee on Humane Slaughtering of Livestock and Poultry on May 10, 1956, that, "We have lead behind other nations" with regard to humane slaughtering.

Mr. Chairman, I want to say that the United States of America need not take lessons from any country as to what legislation must be enacted concerning animals. We are proud of the fact that the United States has reached a higher standard of compassion and tolerance both toward human beings and animals than has been achieved anywhere in the world.

Does the United States need such a bill? We take pride in our mutual understanding and religious tolerance. We all want to preserve the harmonious spirit. A bill of this kind, however, will set up counterreaction; that it might force repercussions in the form of hatred and propaganda against law abiding citizens.

I wish to state in conclusion, Mr. Chairman, that American Jewry, more than 5 million in number, is united in its opposition to the proposed legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. POAGE. Is that the entire statement?

Rabbi LEWIN. Yes.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you.

May I ask this general question? Do I understand that you are opposed to all of these humane slaughter bills and you would object to any kind of legislation, no matter what the exemption might be in regard to your own slaughtering?

Rabbi LEWIN. Maybe our counsel will answer that.

Mr. PFEFFER. We are here as representatives of the 21 groups who have met on the basis of the bills which have been introduced.

Our authority as agents of that large group is limited by the mandate given to us. That mandate is to oppose the present bills which are before this committee, which are listed.

We have no authority to make any comments on any other bills not before this committee.

Mr. POAGE. What I am trying to get at is this: Is it your position that there should not be any legislation of any kind in regard to humane slaughtering in the United States?

Mr. PFEFFER. Never. I cannot say that. I can say if any other bill is presented, other than those before us, the organization which I represent will consider them and reach a decision on it.

All I can say is they have reached a decision only in respect to the bills presently before you.

Mr. POAGE. Do you see any way after listening to the testimony—do you see any way that it will be ever possible to pass any bill and at the same time meet the objection that has been raised?

Mr. PFEFFER. I cannot say that it would and would not. I can only say—

Mr. POAGE. You are a lawyer. Do you see any way that it could be done?

Mr. PFEFFER. As a lawyer I represent the clients—not myself, my own views.

Mr. POAGE. I recognized you not as a lawyer but as a witness—I did not know you were representing anybody. I recognized you as a witness, but, of course, I will not insist that you testify if you do not want to.

Here is what I would like to know: Is there any way that this committee could ever write a bill that could possibly meet the objections that have been raised?

I do not mean there is anything wrong with that, if your objections are to all legislation of this kind, certainly that is perfectly proper and there is nothing wrong with anybody being opposed to any and all legislation.

All I want to know is what are the facts.

Mr. PFEFFER. I cannot answer that because it is not necessarily a single position of all of these groups. Some might and some might not.

All of these groups which we represent here and for whom I am speaking are united only in opposition to the bills presently before the committee.

Mr. POAGE. Then I did not understand the testimony of the rabbi. I understood him to say that there would not be objection to humane slaughter, which your religion does not oppose—of course not—but the objection was because he felt that any regulation of any kind of slaughtering would somehow or other state some restriction upon the methods.

I pass no objection upon his method. I think it is perfectly proper. I would not want any legislation to deny him the right to slaughter as he sees fit.

Does he mean to imply that nobody could have any regulations in the United States that would not be considered a reflection on his methods?

Mr. PFEFFER. I do not think that the rabbi, as I understood it—and I followed the statement very carefully—expressed an opinion on any legislation other than the proposed bills before this committee.

Mr. POAGE. Now, Mr. Pfeffer, this committee has this subject before it. We are not here to consider Mrs. Griffiths' bill or Mr. Dorn's or Mr. Dixon's bills. This committee is here to act on the subject matter. This committee can and probably will write its own.

If you want to make a statement that is going to have any effect on the legislation we invite you to make it. If you do not want to make a statement that affects the legislation, that we probably will bring out, you will have passed your opportunity when you walk out of this room.

Rabbi LEWIN. May I suggest that you give us permission in answer to your very important question to submit our statement in writing in the very near future?

Mr. POAGE. Certainly we will. We will be glad to.

Mr. ALBERT. May I ask this question? I can appreciate your objection to this legislation.

Certainly neither this committee nor the authors of these bills intend to imply that any religious method of slaughtering animals is inhumane. I know that is the last thing that the authors of these bills, all of whom I know personally, intend.

I am sure you are right that under the guise of humanity, dictators have come in and interfered with the freedom of your religious worship.

Would it make any difference in your judgment if, rather than putting religious practices as an exemption in the bill these practices were included as one of the humane methods that might be authorized? Would that be satisfactory?

Mr. PFEFFER. We would like to answer that in a supplementary statement on the basis of the discussion we have had here.

Rabbi LEWIN. Yes.

Mr. PFEFFER. We prefer not to answer it without consultation with the organizations.

Mr. POAGE. We would be glad to have your statement. This committee is going to act. This committee has no intention of sitting on this for the next 6 months. We are going to take action. We will bring out something or we will not pass any bill—we will take some action.

And we would like very much to take action that will meet your objections. Frankly, we do not want to pass something here merely to injure anybody. We haven't the slightest desire to do that.

We do not want to reflect on anybody. Personally speaking, for myself, I find no objection to your practices, but I do feel that we should not let somebody's objections stand in the way where it does not involve their own practices.

All we ask is that you give us a positive statement of whether we can ever pass a bill that will meet your objections or whether we cannot. And give it to us shortly.

And if you find, as suggested by Mr. Albert, we will be delighted to have them, because we want to incorporate them in our record.

Rabbi LEWIN. We appreciate very much your statement. We will act in accordance with your request.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you.

Mrs. Griffiths, you have a witness to present.

Mrs. GRIFFITHS. I would like to present Dr. Myra Babcock, who is one of the greatest practitioners of anesthesia that this country has.

Dr. Babcock, would you like to say something? I know she is very much in support of this bill.

STATEMENT OF DR. MYRA BABCOCK, PLEASANT RIDGE, MICH.

Dr. BABCOCK. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I appreciate being asked to do this, and I appreciate the courtesy extended.

I won't take long.

In the first place, I know from personal experience that carbon dioxide is a very comfortable thing to take. I do not think anybody needs to be afraid of that.

But that it could possibly produce any damage to tissues, if it produces it to the point of death—might possibly at the point of death.

I would like to say nobody actually knows what goes on at the point of death of a quiet, comfortable, fearless, painless death.

Probably change does take place, at the end of terrified, horrible death as administered in so many packinghouses. Nobody yet, I believe, has thoroughly investigated the conditions.

We do know cortisone, that lactic acid may be found in the muscles which are not particularly harmful, but there are other certain pathologic changes which may be from this strain and terror that may have some effect upon it.

And with the fact at the present moment more meat is consumed by America than any other country in the world, the death of that meat in America according to the testimony is done in a most cruel manner. And the people—the men and women—particularly the men—have had a terrific rise in blood pressure and hypertension. That is one of the deadly diseases with which we deal today.

And the most menacing, the most horrible thing is the dreadful destruction of young and middle ages—some young, mostly middle-aged and older people just toppling over with coronary. It is the most common thing in the world. Some have just walked across the bedroom floor and fallen over—and had had a complete electrocardiogram and yet he dropped dead.

We don't know if this has any relation to the way the animals are being killed. But we do not know that it has not.

The last thing I would like to say very briefly: Why in the name of heaven do we sit here for hours when there are laws at present in the United States and in practically every State of the Union which covers the prevention of cruelty to animals?

Why it has to be an economic thing that keeps it from being enforced? Mr. Dawson, we asked him.

I didn't know how to do it—the only way I knew how to do it was to do it this way.

But the packers with plenty of money, the packers persist in using this horrible death. If you have seen the actions in the slaughterhouse you can appreciate that it is hideous. The animal fighting with every intelligence that its poor brain has, every power of its pitiful muscles, every reflex in its body, pouring out all to save him from a dreadful death.

When you think of that it seems to me it is very—a small thing for the United States Government to pass a law that will give as reasonable time as possible to get rid of the horrible, disgraceful slaughter which the United States is engaged in at the present moment.

I thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. POAGE. Thank you.

Now, the bell is going to ring in just a few minutes, and I think probably there will be a rollcall very shortly, but we will proceed as far as we can here.

Dr. Munk is not going to testify further as I understand it, nor the American Section Agudas Israel World Organization nor the Union of Orthodox Rabbis. We have already covered those.

We will next hear Mrs. Bemelmans and following her Mr. Cohn. Rabbi LEWIN. Mr. Jules Cohn was included in the presentation.

Mr. POAGE. All right. Thank you.

Then next will be Mr. Gesell.

Now we will hear Mrs. Ludwig Bemelmans.

STATEMENT OF MADELEINE BEMELMANS, SOCIETY FOR ANIMAL PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Mrs. BEMELMANS. My name is Madeleine Bemelmans. I represent the Society for Animal Protective Legislation. I have come here today with a petition signed by thousands of people from all parts of the United States earnestly and respectfully urging you to do everything in your power to obtain enactment of compulsory humane slaughter legislation in this session of Congress.

I am sure that if slaughterhouses were open to the general public the signatures would run into the millions.

A few weeks ago I asked a friend, whose business brings him in contact with the packing industry, if he could arrange for me to visit slaughterhouses in the New York area. His reply was, "Why subject yourself to an experience the result of which will be that you won't be able to eat anything at all for at least a week?"

The film you will see should give you some small idea of what he meant.

If time permitted I could read you editorials and articles published in newspapers from Maine to California expressing indignation at this national disgrace.

We have here for your inspection the Remington gun, the Cash-X pistol, the Schermer stunner, and the electric knife for stunning poultry, all of which demonstrate that more humane methods are possible and practical.

Recently we received the good news that the price of equipment utilizing carbon dioxide has been substantially reduced. And certainly large-scale production, resulting from a wider demand for it, will lower its cost still more.

One of the main arguments advanced by those who oppose compulsory legislation is that the instruments for humane slaughter have not been sufficiently tested. This is contrary to fact, and furthermore, if perfection is ever to be arrived at, it will be achieved—not by study groups, however valuable they may be—but in the practical application of the means at hand.

So long as existing conditions prevail, who of us, with a clear conscience, can eat meat produced at the cost of so much needless suffering on the part of the animal that dies for our benefit?

Cruelty is expensive because it is wasteful. It is demoralizing to those who practice it and to those who condone it. It should be outlawed.

If time permitted I could read editorials from newspapers from Maine to California, showing indignation at this national disgrace.

We will have a film.

Mr. POAGE. May I ask you about that knife before you leave? How it works, because we had testimony a while ago, even this morning, that it took 15 seconds for an electric shock to result in insensibility as I understood it.

Mrs. BEMELMANS. This is in addition to the shock. There is actually a blade there. This is hitched up to a machine which resembles a radio, and so the shock plus the blade will stun.

Mr. POAGE. It seems to me that the blade would have already killed the animal before the shock became effective.

Mrs. BEMELMANS. I think if the throat is cut, if the head isn't severed, the animal will still be conscious during the period.

Mr. POAGE. If the head were not severed, but in the case of poultry, practically, it is severed, isn't it?

Mrs. BEMELMANS. No, not in all cases. And in the bills one of the provisions is, I believe, that killing of poultry by severing the head is an acceptable method.

Mr. POAGE. Yes.

Mrs. BEMELMANS. But in cases where the people prefer to bleed the animal then this knife is acceptable.

Mr. POAGE. It is possible that would be effective on larger animals?

Mrs. BEMELMANS. Yes.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you.

Mrs. BEMELMANS. Thank you.

Mr. POAGE. The next witness is Mrs. Robert Gesell, representing the Animal Welfare Institute, 22 East Seventeenth Street, New York 3, N. Y.

STATEMENT OF MRS. ROBERT GESELL, ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Mrs. GESELL. I am taking the place of my daughter, Christine Stevens, who is the head of the Animal Welfare Institute. She has previous engagements so could not come.

I would like to read just a word of something that has just come because it appears that some people say that carbon dioxide is not as humane a method of producing insensibility in animals about to be killed.

My husband was a chairman of the Department of Physiology in the University of Michigan for 31 years and he knew that carbon dioxide is a humane method on people, at least. And here is some new work that has been done in England just recently on human beings, and I do not see how better you can prove that carbon dioxide is a humane method.

There is also work that is quoted in my daughter's testimony of, I think, Dr. Blomquist in Denmark where they have tried out this carbon dioxide method by finding that animals are insensible to touch or to be stepped on with wooden shoes after they have been in carbon dioxide atmosphere for about 20 seconds.

And for 15 seconds of that time they are absolutely unconcerned. There are some reflexes. That is also true of human beings in England.

I would like to add on my own account that there are a great many less ordinary housewives that are considering needless cruelty a sin.

And when it is on 130 million helpless, innocent animals every single year in our great slaughterhouses, then it is really too horrible to contemplate.

But as the St. Louis Post-Dispatch said in its editorial on this subject last year, perhaps they recognize that repugnance to cruelty is still a test of civilization. The methods of slaughter being employed and that we tolerate—it reflects on every one of us, and especially when there are at least tested instruments—you have seen them here—that can bring about humane killing. These have been used for many years in foreign countries. And some of them have been used in very few places in these United States.

But what is done about it? We know all of this. Nothing is done. All we can do is to implore every Member of this Congress to take the clear opportunity to do justice and mercy and give our country, also, humane slaughter.

Thank you.

Mr. POAGE. May we thank you.

And may I state for the record that Mrs. Stevens has called on me in connection with this bill, and she explained that she was not going to be able to be here on this date.

But she wanted us to proceed as expeditiously as we could, and she raised no objection to the setting of the hearing at this time although she regretted that she could not be present herself.

I did want to make it clear that Mrs. Stevens had been very active and very interested in these bills and in these hearings.

(The prepared statement by Mrs. Stevens is as follows:)

STATEMENT BY MRS. CHRISTINE STEVENS, PRESIDENT, ANIMAL WELFARE INSTITUTE

My name is Christine Stevens. I am president of the Animal Welfare Institute, and in that capacity I have made a study of humane slaughtering methods, visiting slaughterhouses in the United States, England, Holland, and Denmark. The institute is sponsoring scientific research on slaughtering methods, including studies on electrical stunning and on the anesthetization of the bovine species with carbon dioxide. This work is being conducted at Michigan State University. The institute has collected a substantial body of technical information on the practical application of all humane methods of slaughter, as well as information on the historical background and legal status of humane slaughter throughout the world.

So far as we have been able to ascertain, neither the underdeveloped countries nor the Communist countries have humane slaughter legislation. However, laws requiring packers to use humane methods of slaughter are in force in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Switzerland, New Zealand, Fiji, and parts of Australia, Austria, Germany, and France.

Why is the United States absent from this list? Why does our country fall instead into a class with the technologically backward among nations, and far worse, into a class with those nations whose Communist rulers have no pity for either people or animals and no shame in the perpetration of cruelty? The reason is not hard to find. It is the packers whose stubborn resistance to humane slaughter is responsible for this national disgrace.

About 30 years ago humanitarians made great efforts to change the cruel methods in use then and still in use today to kill the large majority of our food animals. Under this sharp stimulus, the American Meat Institute, which represents the largest and most powerful members of the industry, formed its committee for improved slaughtering methods in 1929. The packers promised to adopt humane methods voluntarily. A major speaker at the convention of the American Humane Association in that year announced with confidence that the packers are with us.

Events have proved conclusively that they are not. Since 1929 the organized packing industry has carried out formal scientific research on a single humane

method—electrical stunning. As a result of that research they managed to obtain a regulation against electrical stunning by the Department of Agriculture. The validity of the research has been questioned by later scientific findings, but the regulation still stands.

Now the packers are sponsoring bills in both the House and the Senate (H. R. 5820 and S. 1213) to do research with Government funds and thereby put off again for 2 more years at least the enactment of compulsory humane slaughter legislation. No country in the world has ever achieved humane slaughter for the majority of its food animals until compulsory humane slaughter legislation has been enacted.

During the course of these hearings it will doubtless be observed that everyone who testifies states that he is in favor of humane slaughter. How can it be then that hundreds of millions of helpless animals continue to be slaughtered without the slightest attempt to prevent acute pain, terror, and foreknowledge of death? Actions speak louder than words, and it is time that the packers' empty words and broken promises be recognized for what they are. It is time to enact compulsory humane slaughter legislation.

America's greatest strength is her moral strength. Americans abhor cruelty. It is inconceivable that a relatively small and completely selfish group should be allowed to continue practicing unnecessary cruelty which is contrary to the principles on which our country was founded.

Since everyone, even the most implacable opponents of compulsory legislation, takes the position that humane slaughter is desirable, the question on which the distinguished members of this committee are asked to make a decision is whether or not packers should be required to use humane methods. In order to do that, the arguments against compulsion should be carefully reviewed and seriously considered. The packers offer five arguments against humane slaughter legislation of this kind.

First, they say that it isn't necessary because they will adopt humane methods voluntarily. But they have had nearly 30 years in which to make good their promises to do so. Many hundreds of millions—more than a billion animals—have died in agony because the packers have been so successful in fooling the public, in putting off again and yet again the day when they abandon their primeval slaughtering methods. If they really plan to adopt humane methods, how can they honestly object to legislation which gives them 2 to 3 years to put the method of their choice into operation? Nevertheless, object they do.

Their second argument consists of complaints that humane slaughter is too expensive for small packers. In making this assertion they do not, of course, say that the humane stunners (the Cash-X captive bolt pistol, the Schermer stunner, and the Remington stunner) which range in price from \$100 to \$220 cost too much. Their complaints on cost have been directed solely against the carbon dioxide anesthetizing equipment. Testimony was offered last year by all three packer organizations at the Senate hearing on the compulsory humane slaughter bill.

Mr. Larson, testifying for the American Meat Institute, said, "If you could develop those things (CO₂ machines) keep the cost down of the equipment and operation, it would be fine, we would all go along with you. If you have to spend \$75,000 or \$100,000 for just that particular equipment alone, it just could not be done." Mr. Larson slaughters 150 hogs a week, and we surely agree with him that seventy-five to one hundred thousand dollars is an unreasonably big cost for equipment for his size of plant. Mr. Barnette, also testifying for the American Meat Institute and slaughtering 175 hogs a week, stated, "It would cost no less than \$100,000" for the carbon dioxide equipment, and he further said, "We hope that something will be developed that will allow us to join in as quickly as we can in carrying out the slaughter from as humane a standpoint as it can be." Mr. Lilienquist, representing the Western States Meat Packers Association, said, "The cost of treating hogs with carbon dioxide gas to render them insensible prior to slaughter is far beyond the financial reach of the small meatpackers." Mr. La Roe, testifying for the National Independent Meat Packers, emphasized the same points: "They are not satisfied with present arrangements for slaughter, and they welcome any improvement, and what scares them to death is these big figures of cost." Mr. La Roe concluded his prepared statement with the following sentence: "If you will keep it on your docket for 12 months and call us back to show cause what has been done in the 12 months, that will be a very reasonable policy and will avoid harshness and the dangerous effect of sudden legislation."

Since Mr. La Roe made this statement, 11 months have gone by, and an extremely important development has taken place. It is now possible to purchase a carbon dioxide anesthetizing machine for approximately \$3,500 in this country. Such a machine will anesthetize up to 60 hogs or other small animals per hour. Cost of carbon dioxide is less than a penny per animal. Including installation cost, the expenditure might reach \$5,000—not just 100 or 200 percent less than the amount the small packers imagined it would cost, but 2,000 percent less.

At this price, any one of the approximately 500 packers operating under Federal meat inspection, engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, would be able to afford to install a piece of practical, bruise-preventing equipment of this kind. The improvement in his labor relations and public relations alone should soon repay the investment.

Further, if he believes that he could build himself an anesthetizing machine at lower cost than he can purchase it, there is nothing to prevent him from purchasing carbon dioxide and building himself a small elevator for lowering animals into the gas before slaughter.

Last year cheap anesthetizing machines were available in Europe but not in America. This year, this equipment is available in different sizes and shapes for all types of plants ranging from \$3,500 to \$39,000,¹ the latter figure being cost of equipment capable of handling 600 hogs per hour. The average cost of installation is about half again as much as the cost of the equipment. If the packer desires to install a bleeding conveyor, in addition, he may do so, but it is not necessary for compliance with compulsory humane slaughter legislation.

With a carbon dioxide anesthetizing machine of a size suitable to his operation, and any one of the three stunning instruments on the market, every packer can humanely kill in a practical and efficient manner every animal received in his plant. Most would probably elect to anesthetize hogs and sheep with CO₂ and stun cattle with a mechanical instant stunner. The methods have the approval of the Department of Agriculture.

Small, neighborhood butchers who do not engage in interstate and foreign commerce would not be affected by Federal legislation on the subject and would not be required to conform to its provisions. However, any small packer who wishes to do so can follow the lead of the small operators who voluntarily shoot all the animals they slaughter with a rifle or pistol just before bleeding. This does not require any investment at all other than the ammunition.

To sum up, if there is any packer engaged in interstate and foreign commerce who would be put out of business by the costs noted above, I urge this committee to ask him to identify himself. My inquiries have failed to unearth such a packer.

These inquiries have, however, brought to light a packer attitude which shows why it will be necessary to enact compulsory legislation if we are to achieve humane slaughter in our country. A typical response to current requests by humanitarians to packers to install humane equipment voluntarily is to the effect that: (1) "We are going to wait until the research promised under the packers' proposed study commission bill is done before we install any equipment" (this means no purchase of any humane equipment till 1959 at the earliest and no guaranty that it will ever be purchased) and (2) "If the compulsory bill passes, instead of the study commission bill, everybody will have to buy humane equipment, and so the price will probably go down. So we'll wait and see if it doesn't."

The second attitude is not based on actual cost of equipment or ability to purchase it but merely on the desire to get a bargain. There is nothing wrong with this very natural and very widespread desire, but it is necessary to recognize its existence so as to avoid the mistaken belief that humane methods of slaughter will be voluntarily adopted by all packers, or even by a majority of packers engaged in interstate commerce.

No financial obstacles of any consequence exist to prevent immediate enactment of compulsory humane slaughter legislation. All the bills allow 2 years

¹ Cost of anesthetizing equipment for different sized plants as estimated by the Albright-Nell Co., February 1957:

60 hogs and under per hour-----	\$3, 500
60 to 120 hogs per hour-----	9, 000
121 to 150 hogs per hour-----	14, 700
151 to 300 hogs per hour-----	23, 700
301 to 450 hogs per hour-----	31, 000
451 to 600 hogs per hour-----	39, 000

to adopt humane methods, with an extra year in special cases. Liberal tax allowances are helpful in making capital improvements. The equipment pays for itself in savings in bruising and operation.

To turn to the third objection made by the packers, they have sought to assert that it is all very well for European packers to kill animals humanely, but American animals are so "fractious" and wild that American packers can't be humane. Such a point of view shows a total lack of sympathy for American packinghouse workers. The more fractious and wild the animal the more essential it is that it be anesthetized or stunned before slaughter. The accident rate for the packing industry is almost double that for all industrial activity combined, and it is rising. Why should any human being be compelled to earn his living in the midst of blood-curdling screams, splashed with blood, and in constant danger of severe bites, kicks, deep knife wounds when the knife is deflected by a struggling animal, or being crushed when a heavy animal falls on him? None of this is necessary. It will be stopped if compulsory humane slaughter legislation is enacted.

The fourth objection put forward by the packers is based on the high speed of operation. Anyone who has seen the high-speed anesthetization and slaughter of hogs at the Hormel plants or at Kingan & Co., or the stunning of cattle with a captive bolt pistol at the Oscar Mayer Co., knows this objection is unfounded. Any desired rate of speed can be achieved with anesthetization or stunning. The animals come out of CO₂ machines at any rate from 60 to 600 per hour and a rate of 1,200 per hour can be obtained by running two parallel tunnels. As for cattle, the attempts to stun them with a hammer, which so often require blow after blow to bring the animals down, are certainly no more rapid than accurate stunning with a mechanical instrument. The number of cattle killed per hour on any killing floor depends upon the number of beds in use, not upon whether a hammer or a humane stunner is used on the animals.

The packers' fifth and last argument is directed against carbon dioxide, on the peculiar contention that it is no more humane to put an animal to sleep with this gas so that he will be unconscious when his throat is cut than it is to drag him up screaming by a chain around his hind leg, letting him struggle and writhe till he sometimes breaks his own pelvis as he is sent over the great wheel to the stickler who thrusts a knife into his throat and leaves him to bleed to death. This contention is as fantastic as it sounds, but so assiduous are the representatives of the packers in claiming that CO₂ suffocates rather than anesthetizes animals that it is essential that this committee have conclusive scientific evidence on this subject. Following are excerpts from the article, *Stunning Pigs With Carbon Dioxide*, by Dr. S. M. Blomquist, of the Danish Meat Research Institute; it appeared in Danish in *Slagteriernes Forskningsinstitut*, December 15, 1956, and is scheduled to appear in the *English Journal, Food Manufacture*, this spring. Dr. Blomquist writes: "The narcotic effect of CO₂ was demonstrated by Henry Hall Hickman as early as 1827 (Poulsen, 1952). * * * It is known (Meduna, 1950) that an isolated nerve in a high CO₂ tension milieu demands greater irritation to react, that is, to send out impulses. In addition, it is known that the speed of the impulse along the nerve is reduced. CO₂ also has the effect of making the transfer of impulses from one nerve cell to another more difficult because the connections between the nerve cells (synapses) are partly blocked by the high CO₂ concentration. These conditions make CO₂ an effective anesthetic. * * * The reaction of pigs to CO₂ stunning was investigated during an experiment carried out by the Danish Meat Research Institute. Seventy percent CO₂ in ordinary air was used. The pigs moved around rather freely during the experiment, and a person with a supply of fresh air followed the animals during the experiment. During the first 15 seconds the animals were apparently unaffected by the stunning gas. They went around calmly sniffing manure from other pigs and showed no sign of cramps in the pharynx, larynx, or bronchi. Nor did they seem to have smarting in the mucous membranes. Fifteen seconds after the pigs were let into the stunning chamber there appeared a state of excitement, where they bent their head backwards and fell over on their side. It was impossible at that point to make any investigation of the corneal reflex (blink reflex when the cornea is touched), but 5 seconds after the beginning of the reaction the sense of pain seemed to have been lost, or, at any rate, greatly reduced, since the pigs did not react when their hooves were stepped on with wooden shoes. At this point all eye movements had ceased. The pigs did not follow a hand drawn before their head. The skin was still sensitive to a slight touch. Fifteen seconds after the beginning

of the fit the corneal reflex disappeared. The time periods mentioned were approximately the same for 5 experimental animals.

"From the knowledge of the cause of narcoses in general (Moller, 1952) it can be concluded that the pigs rather suddenly lose consciousness about 15 seconds after they are put into the CO₂ atmosphere. A few seconds later there is no longer any sense of pain and after a few seconds more the animal is generally anesthetized, that is, feeling of pain, consciousness, and voluntary and involuntary muscular movements disappear, without essentially affecting circulation or any other vital function. * * *

"The animals wake up calmly during the course of 1½ to 2 minutes if they are allowed to lie; 10 to 15 minutes later they have completely recovered."

It is while they are under general anesthesia that the animals are slaughtered. Thus they are unconscious and feel no pain.

Poultry, too, can be anesthetized using CO₂. A humane stunning method in wide use for poultry is the electric knife² which is touched to the birds' heads before being used to cut their throats. The electric current passing through their brains renders them unconscious. Poultry can also be humanely killed by stunning with a sharp blow on the back of the head before bleeding or by cutting the head off at one stroke.

To sum up, several humane slaughtering methods for livestock and poultry are easily available to all who wish to use them. Two of the stunning instruments, the captive bolt pistol and the Schermer stunner, have been used for decades in different parts of the world to stun animals before slaughter. Three hundred million animals of all types have been successfully stunned with the captive bolt pistol, according to its English manufacturers, a substantial number of these in the United States. Those packers who prefer the Remington stunner, which does not penetrate the brain, are at liberty to purchase it instead of the British or German stunners, but this is simply a matter of individual preference. Carbon dioxide anesthetization is now available at prices suitable to different sizes of plants.

All that remains is to apply humane methods to the animals. It would be a deep and terrible shame if our country should fail to act honorably on this moral issue.

In every country which now has humane slaughter, the packers fought against compulsory legislation just as American packers are doing. American packers fought compulsory Federal meat inspection in 1905 and 1906, just as they are fighting compulsory humane slaughter legislation today. On these matters the packers are wrong. It is essential that civilized countries should have sanitary meat and that it should be killed without cruelty. The only way to obtain such objectives is by compulsory legislation based on the sound principles common to the bills introduced by Representatives Griffiths, Hiestand, Miller, Dawson and McMillan. I call your attention in particular to the extremely well drawn bills H. R. 3029 and H. R. 5671. I urge you, for the good of our Nation as a whole, to recommend the immediately enactment of these bills.

(The article entitled "Humaneness of Producing Unconsciousness in Pigs With CO₂" is as follows:)

HUMANENESS OF PRODUCING UNCONSCIOUSNESS IN PIGS WITH CO₂

The object of the investigation was that a human subject should breathe air containing increasing proportions of CO₂ and observe the sensations.

The Oxford University Department of Physiology kindly provided facilities, and a member of the Nuffield Department of Anesthetics kindly assisted as life-guard. Air and carbon dioxide were fed into the inspiratory tubes, the flow of each being measured by rotameters. Graphic records were made of respiratory rate and ventilatory volume and samples of alveolar air were obtained when required.

To give time to record sensations (and for safety) the intention was to raise the level of CO₂ in the inspired air more slowly than presumably occurs when pigs are killed. In fact it was raised about 1 percent every one-fourth minute. As the inspired CO₂ rose the breathing became deeper, but though the increase in chest movement was very obvious subjectively there was no conscious effort or other disagreeable sensation. When the ventilation had risen from a resting

² Cost, \$115.

value of about 6.6 l/min to about 80 l/min the CO₂ apparently reached toxic levels and the ventilation declined slightly. At about this point objects were not seen clearly and thought was increasingly obscure. This condition rapidly progressed over the course of about 1 minute, and merged into a dream of an unspecified nature. Observers discontinued the experiment when the subject appeared to be unconscious and his legs were jactitating. The alveolar CO₂ was about 86 mm. Hg at its height. (Normal 40-45 mm. Hg). At no time was there any unpleasant sensation in the respiratory passages.

A more acute experiment was also made, but being unintentional is less well documented. It may, however, more closely represent what happens to the pigs. When the breathing apparatus was being tried out it was thought that they were filled with air, but, in fact, they had a very considerable (but unknown), proportion of CO₂ in them. The subject immediately noticed a distinct metallic taste, his breathing became deeper (though never very deep) for a few breaths and then vision and thought became rapidly affected, though the subject was capable of discontinuing the experiment himself. This was probably the result of much more rapid CO₂ poisoning, the principle difference noted being the metallic taste, and the rapid impairment of consciousness. The level of arterial CO₂ apparently rose through the stimulatory range into the toxic within a few breaths.

Conclusion: Pigs can be rendered unconscious humanely by carbon dioxide.

J. SPALDING, D. M., M. A., M. R. C. P.

MARCH 23, 1957.

Mr. POAGE. Now, Mr. Kearney, and following Mr. Kearney the National Community Relations and Advisory Council.

Rabbi LEWIN. It was one of those covered by us.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you.

Now Mr. Kearney.

STATEMENT OF PAUL W. KEARNEY, BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Mr. KEARNEY. The value of my testimony, if any, is that I am neither a meatpacker nor a humane society worker—but just a man in the middle, here at my own expense.

I am a free-lance reporter of over 25 years' standing, contributing to such magazines as the Saturday Evening Post, Reader's Digest, Better Homes and Gardens, and others.

This experience has brought me in contact with many different types of business, industrial, and governmental enterprises. On the strength of it, I would like to offer a practical and unemotional explanation of the packing industry's resistance to progress. This explanation, which goes behind their crocodile tears for the little packer, is very simple. It is inertia.

Despite our justifiable admiration of American business initiative, it is a historic fact that business has always been allergic to change for the better. Back in 1906 these same packers fought Federal meat inspection tooth and nail. Now they like it.

Likewise, in the early days the bitterest opponents of the pure food and drug laws were the giant pharmaceutical houses—who brought up the same platitudinous objections you hear in this meeting. Today those same pharmaceutical houses are the staunchest supporters of the Food and Drug Administration.

By the same token, our American ships are the safest ships afloat. Today the worst of them are better than the finest under any foreign flag from the standpoint of fire safety and seaworthiness.

But this has not always been true. For years shipowners "endorsed in principle" a rigid safety code. But they did nothing about adopt-

ing that code until a *Morro Castle* disaster provoked Congress to enforce its adoption by law.

It wasn't pigs we were coddling then, but people. Yet it was just as hard to sell the maritime interests on safety to life at sea as it is to sell humane slaughter to the packing industry, despite its proven merits.

This idea of endorsing compulsory humane slaughter "in principle" is a time-honored stall. May I remind you that the entire automobile industry endorsed the four-wheel brake "in principle" as the greatest safety advance of the century. But not one manufacturer put it on a car until the Bendix people embarked on a national advertising campaign to force it down their throats. Such is the inertia of big business.

You will hear much about the advantages of humane slaughter because the leading trade papers in the packing field have carried many articles showing that the Hormel system as a case in point, had doubled production with half the manpower, and has virtually eliminated employee accidents on the hazardous killing floor.

It has also entirely eliminated from the killing floor the barbarity which has been inherent to this complacent industry for 150 years.

The result has been marked benefits to the workers, the management, the stockholders, the consumers—and the animals.

Isn't it pertinent to mention that this same progressive attitude in all of its activities has given Hormel the highest profit ratio in the business? While its competitors are still so retarded that they profess to lose money on every pound of meat sold.

Others will give you ample details of the calloused brutality of our antiquated slaughtering methods—which even the Fiji Islanders have banned by law. Suffice it to say that I saw them within the year in every packinghouse in Omaha, as some of your Members subsequently did. I feel just as well qualified to evaluate those methods from a humane, Christian viewpoint as is any member of the American Meat Institute.

And I say that they are not only shameful in this enlightened age—but they are the most persuasive arguments for vegetarianism that I have ever encountered. And I am not a vegetarian.

So permit me to urge you to end this evil—not by "study" for another 29 years, but by the mandatory adoption of humane methods which pay dividends.

Because when you strip this debate of its emotionalism, its slick evasion, even its medieval religious mumbo jumbo, the cold, hard fact remains that when animal slaughter is efficient, it is humane. And vice versa.

Thank you for this privilege.

MR. POAGE. We are very much obliged to you.

MR. KEARNEY. Thank you.

MR. POAGE. Those were the bells for the rollcall in the House. I do not believe we will be able to proceed now. We will attempt to come back here at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

There may be rollcalls on the floor of the House at that time. If there are, the committee will be on the floor and not in the committee room at the time of the rollcalls. But in the absence of a rollcall at that time, the committee will assemble at 2 o'clock.

We have a request to show a film. Let us have the film set up, if possible, so that at 2 o'clock, unless we run into a conflict, we will run the film first. We will then remove that and proceed with the remaining witnesses.

The committee will stand in recess until 2 o'clock.

(Whereupon, at 12:10 p. m., the committee recessed, to reconvene at 2 p. m. this day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Mr. POAGE (presiding). The committee will please come to order.

I believe that we had announced that Mr. Mayer would be the next witness. We will be delighted to hear from you. I believe that following Mr. Mayer that Colonel Anthony is present.

Proceed, Mr. Mayer.

STATEMENT OF ARNOLD MAYER, PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR AND WASHINGTON STAFF MEMBER OF THE AMALGAMATED MEAT CUTTERS AND BUTCHER WORKMEN OF NORTH AMERICA, AFL-CIO; ACCOMPANIED BY LARKIN BIRMINGHAM, BUSINESS AGENT, LOCAL 149, BALTIMORE, MD.

Mr. MAYER. May I introduce Mr. Birmingham, who is a business agent of our local 149 in Baltimore, which has a great number of packinghouses under contract.

Mr. POAGE. We are delighted to have you here, Mr. Birmingham. You may proceed and we will be glad to hear from you.

Mr. MAYER. Thank you, sir.

My name is Arnold Mayer. I am the public relations director and a Washington staff member of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America (AFL-CIO).

The AMCBW is a labor union with 350,000 members, organized in more than 500 local unions throughout the United States and Canada.

The AMCBW and its locals have contracts with thousands of employers in the meat, retail, poultry, egg, canning, leather, fish processing and fur industries.

Basically, it is the function of labor unions to fight cruelty of man against man, especially in the economic sphere. As organizations of workers, the unions' primary purpose is to protect wage earners.

Thus, through unions, workers guard themselves against deprivation and poverty by bringing about an ever-increasing standard of living.

Through their unions, workers provide a degree of job security and the machinery to handle on-the-job grievances, so that they will not be at the possibly capricious mercy of foremen and employers.

Also, through their unions, workers protect themselves against poverty in old age, unemployment, and other eventualities which may occur through no fault of the individuals involved.

But organized workers realize that they are not a group set off by themselves. They know they are part of the entire American community.

Labor unions, therefore, seek to improve the conditions of other groups and the entire community, especially through the support of socially beneficial legislation and through community activities.

The AMCBW takes part in all of the functions of labor unions. In collective bargaining, in legislative activities and in community work, our union and its local affiliates have sought to better the lives of our members; labor, in general, and the community and Nation, as a whole.

We fully realize that bettering the lives of human beings and preventing cruelty of man against man, must have as a corollary the prevention of cruelty against animals. This is one reason why we appear before this committee today in favor of humane slaughtering legislation.

Some of the processes in slaughtering cattle, hogs, and other livestock leave a great deal to be desired from the point of view of humaneness toward animals.

Today, comparatively inexpensive means for correcting this situation are available. And, we understand, that these means are completely practical.

Our other reason for supporting the humane slaughtering legislation is our concern for the welfare of the workers in the packinghouse industry. More than 100,000 packinghouse workers are members of our union.

Many of the jobs involved in the current process of killing hogs and cattle are dangerous, dirty, and nauseating. The workers do not like these jobs and generally want to be moved to other work in the packinghouse.

Probably the most heartily disliked job is the shackling of hogs. Workers must go into a small pen crowded with emotionally disturbed hogs. They must reach down among the animals to put a small shackle chain around one the hog's hind legs. The chain is attached to a rail and the hog is yanked up into the air, and is pulled to the hog kill.

This operation is not only extremely painful for the hog; it also provides considerable danger to the worker. The hogs generally thrash around. Their hoofs are sharp. Workers are often gouged. Although the men wear protective equipment, it is not completely satisfactory and injuries are common.

A further danger comes from the great deal of dust which the terrified hogs kick up. As a result, pulmonary diseases, such as tuberculosis and silicosis, are a definite health hazard to packinghouse workers on the shackling job.

The cattle-killing operation is not as dangerous, but it is still nauseating work which is not generally desired. The so-called "knocking" of cattle, whereby a man hits the animal on the forehead with a hammer, is a physically demanding job. Great effort is involved. The pressure of an 8-hour day of this work is tremendous.

Both the shackling and the knocking job would be ended by this legislation. And packinghouse workers will be happy to see them go.

Our members have had experience with the captive bolt gun on cattle and the carbon dioxide tunnel for hogs. They have found them both to be effective and to make for far better working conditions.

In the poultry industry, humane slaughtering legislation will not have much effect on the industrial hazards. However, the legislation will make for some improved working conditions.

Our members have found the electric knife, which is already in use in many plants, to be a practical and humane means of killing poultry.

For these reasons, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, we urge the enactment of mandatory humane slaughtering legislation.

We oppose the sections of any bill which allow the interpretation that kosher slaughter is inhumane. Such a conclusion about the slaughter of cattle carried out in accordance with the ritual of the Jewish faith is false.

The ritual provides for the cutting of veins with an extra-sharp knife—a process, which, according to scientific writings, immediately renders the animal insensible.

Because kosher slaughter accomplishes the same purpose as is sought in these bills, that is, rendering the animal immediately insensible, it should be listed as a humane means of slaughter.

Mr. POAGE. We are very glad to have had you, Mr. Mayer.

Mr. Birmingham, would you care to say something?

Mr. BIRMINGHAM. No, sir; unless the committee would care to ask me some questions about the slaughtering end because I have had 16 years of actual experience in cattle and hog slaughtering.

Mr. POAGE. I feel the committee has seen slaughtering at firsthand. It has probably formed its own opinions, as I have, as to the present methods, but we are delighted to have any opinions from anyone else that wants to express them.

We are delighted to have you with us and appreciate your presentation.

Mr. BIRMINGHAM. Thank you, sir.

Mr. POAGE. Now we will hear from Lt. Col. David J. Anthony.

STATEMENT OF D. J. ANTHONY, MRCVS, DVSM, FRSH, CHIEF, VETERINARY OFFICER, BRIERLEY HILL, AT THE MARSH & BAXTER HEADQUARTERS PLANT, STAFFORDSHIRE, ENGLAND

Mr. ANTHONY. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, my name is David J. Anthony, chief veterinary officer at Marsh & Baxter headquarters plant, Staffordshire, England.

In Britain up to the year 1930, humane slaughter methods were only carried out in some of the smaller abattoirs, when speed of killing was not a prime consideration.

The weapon used was the captive-bolt pistol, which is a mechanical poleax. The larger meat producers were opposed to the use of the pistol for the stunning of hogs in their plants, and the reasons they gave for not using it were that it would slow up production and leave more blood in the meat and so tend to encourage the growth of spoilage bacteria.

One of the more progressive bacon curers first had the German electric stunning method tried out in 1929. It was then in a very crude and inefficient state.

A year later a new version was tested, and found to be clean, swift, silent, and most efficient. Various tests were made by many eminent scientists, medical and veterinary, and the humane societies approved

of the methods. Marsh & Baxter adopted it as a routine stunner for the smaller animals—hogs, boars, sows, calves, sheep and lambs—throughout all their plants in Britain.

For cattle they adopted the captive-bolt pistol, which they had introduced on trial at the same time. The result was that other meat traders followed suit, and the Humane Slaughtering Act of 1933 followed in due course. From that day to this no British packer has even wanted to go back to the prehumane methods of killing, because after 20 to 25 years practical experience of pistol and electricity, they know they are on a good thing.

The introduction of the gas method at the Hormel plant has been followed with great interest, and if it was not for the fact that the Humane Slaughter Act in Britain only specifically mentions a "mechanical instrument or electricity," there is no doubt that gas plants would have been installed in many of our plants.

As it is, we are now awaiting a modification in our legislation which will allow "chemical" methods also to be used. Leading packers, as well as our humane societies, are agreed on this, and the Government has also indicated its willingness to change the law.

Even so, there will always be use for the other methods, where the situation does not warrant the expense of chemical installations, or the plant is too small.

Of course, in view of the religious element involved in the Jewish and Mohammedan slaughter ritual, our laws provide for that by complete exemption from the provisions of the act, and in most of the public abattoirs where ritual slaughter is carried out there is a special casting box in use.

This fixes the beast, enables the whole to be turned on its side, with the animal's neck extended in a position for the ritual slaughterman to do his bleeding, and so saves the violent fall onto a concrete floor which was once so common a feature of this slaughter method.

The controversy over humane slaughter with which we in Britain were so familiar in the 1920's seems to be largely repeating itself wherever new methods of slaughter are introduced, and I would like to offer a few remarks based upon over a quarter of a century's experience of the use of humane slaughter methods.

We are told that great damage can be inflicted by the captive-bolt pistol on the animal brain, and so render that article unsalable.

The captive-bolt pistol is just a mechanical poleax, the bolt being driven by a small blank cartridge, instead of the less certain muscular action of the axman's arms.

A blunt hammer blow does not penetrate the brain, but it does induce hemorrhage beneath the brain membranes just as the captive-bolt does.

We find the captive-bolt does less damage to the brain than ever the poleax did. To penetrate into the brain the bolt must first pass through the outer layer of bone in the animal's skull, and then the inner layer forming the roof or cover of the brain cavity or cranium.

The two layers of tough bone slow down the speed of the bolt, and it certainly does not tear the brain when its end enters the brain-box itself.

Some hemorrhage may be caused in many cases, but the greatest damage to the cattle brain is done when it is removed from the brain cavity in the skull by the fingers of the slaughterman whose job it is to sever the head from the body.

Throughout the years we have never had any complaint from the food-consuming public about cattle brains, nor have we ever failed to find a ready sale for such articles in our shops.

The captive-bolt pistol can also be used on all the smaller food animals, such as calves, sheep, lambs, boars, sows, and hogs.

It is so used by thousands of small butchers up and down the land, especially in country districts and places remote from electric power.

There are two kinds of cartridge manufactured for this pistol, one ordinary for the smaller stock, and one extra strong for cattle and aged bulls.

We have found no difficulty in using this weapon, nor have we ever had any complaints from any customer.

In the early days of electric stunner operations and in order to demonstrate that there was no injury of a permanent nature caused to the animal, I once performed a short surgical operation upon some adult and aged boars, using as an anesthetic nothing but the electric current from the stunner.

This was done in the presence of three eminent medical and veterinary scientists. The animals operated upon were allowed to fully recover.

About a month later they were slaughtered by the electric humane stunner method. The organs and flesh were carefully scrutinized for any ill effects, but there was none.

Veterinarians working independently of each other, and in alliance with the physiological departments of various universities, carried out special tests to try and find out if electrically stunned hogs bled better than hogs without any stunning.

In each case the muscle blood content of the electrically stunned hogs was less than that of the nonstunned. The amount of blood collected per animal under electric anesthesia was greater than that collected without humane slaughter.

The reason was twofold: (a) Not only does electric stunning by its effect on consciousness completely relax the animal and so reduce the muscular blood content, but (b) the comparative lack of violent reflex movements after shackling and hoisting enables the slaughterman to bleed the animal into the proper receptacle.

In the unstunned hog, the shrieking, terrified animal hangs by one hind leg still fully conscious, kicking and jerking on the rail violently.

When the knife is inserted, the blood spurts out and is splashed all over the place, much of it drying on the slaughter-pen walls and on the slaughterman's clothing.

Blood is a valuable byproduct; it can be used for blood-sausage, or for cattle food, fertilizer, and dried hog serum is a valuable source of protein which can be used in man in cases of excessive protein wastage due to certain kidney diseases.

Those are only a few of its uses. It is a good commercial product, and our plants cannot afford the wastage resulting from bleeding a nonstunned animal even if there were no Humane Slaughter Act.

One of the commonest diseases found in the hog lung in our country is virus pneumonia, and in meat inspection this has taken the place once held by tuberculosis, thanks to the eradication policy which is bearing such wonderful results.

Hog cholera in our country is classed as one of the controlled diseases which, like foot-and-mouth disease, is to be eradicated wherever found.

The laws about this disease of hog cholera are strictly enforced and every veterinarian, whatever his job, meat inspection or not, must not only report this disease to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, but the diagnosis must be completely confirmed without doubt from the Central Veterinary Laboratory of the Government.

To do this the veterinarian first discovering signs of disease, say in the course of meat inspection, or on the farm, must send to the laboratory sufficient evidence to establish a complete diagnosis.

Every veterinarian must therefore be quite familiar with this disease in all its stages.

As a normal rule, hogs coming into bacon plants for slaughter are naturally bred for that purpose, and appear to the sender to be perfectly healthy and able to stand the journey.

When a case of hog cholera is reported by a veterinarian in a bacon plant, the disease will usually be in a fairly early stage. He may find advanced cases and chronic cases in old sows, but the bacon-hog shows an earlier stage in most of the cases I find.

It has been said that these cases show signs in the hog lungs which might cause a veterinarian to confuse hog cholera with lesions resulting from excessive use of current in electric stunning.

Such statements have never been made by those of us whose job it is to diagnose disease in plants where electric stunners have been in use over a quarter of a century.

I know of no veterinarian in Britain who would be so ignorant of the signs of hog cholera in the lung as to make the mistake of confusing it with electric stunning hemorrhages. The argument just fails to register with us.

Much play has been made with these tiny blood spots which may sometimes be seen in hog lungs. The spotting in hog cholera, paratyphoid and other diseases is often accompanied by an intense blood congestion of the nearest lymph node, so intense as to be almost black in color.

The cholera spots may be anywhere on the lung surface, and there is no mistaking the pneumonia signs accompanying them. The extra oozing of the tiny drops of blood from the smaller blood vessels that may occur if the time lag between stunning and bleeding has been prolonged, is nowhere capable of being confused with hog cholera signs.

This problem of blood spot, or "blood splashing," as we call it, can be produced in any stunned animal by prolonging the time between the act of stunning and that of bleeding.

In the prehumane slaughter days in Britain, the drawing out of the time between stunning and bleeding in order to produce a blood-splashed carcass was a favored method of demonstrators anxious to impress the representatives of the humane societies with the supposed incompetence of the humane killers.

It is a quite harmless condition, and should not occur where the animal has been properly stunned and bled.

To place these instruments in the hands of untrained people is really dangerous because it can be used to discredit the whole humane method of slaughter.

We therefore insist that there should be trained men rather than untrained men on the slaughterhouse floor. Efficiency and speed demands that and we use an 80-volt current applied for a matter of 4 seconds.

We find that ample to produce complete unconsciousness.

In our plants we find the men welcome the introduction of humane slaughter, as it means greater efficiency and less fatigue and danger for themselves.

Most of the cattle we slaughter are young, good-quality steers that have never known what it is to be tied up, and in the case of hogs, they are not all as uniform in size as we would like.

We kill a percentage of sows and adult boars in the 500 pounds and over deadweight category, and we have never found the slightest difficulty in getting them unconscious with the electric stunner.

Provided the instrument is applied with the electrodes of the tongs covering the brain on either side, there is no difficulty.

We find it helps to give the animal a soft fall by covering the stunning pen floor with wood, slatted in 6-inch rectangles to prevent the animal's feet slipping, and covering the lot with some inches of wood shavings.

As the hogs enter they are so intent on smelling these shavings that they take no notice of the electric stunner operator or the shackler.

Their snouts go down in such a position that it is easy for the operator, standing behind and to the side, to snap the tongs into position between ear and eye on each side, switch on the current and gently follow the animal's fall.

In the meantime the shackler has already hooked the chain to the wheel and the hog is away into the bleeding pen in a matter of seconds, all in silence, and with no panic or excitement.

We find the wood shavings keep the pen smelling sweet. It absorbs urine, and can be cleaned out and burnt after each day's killing is over.

Before we had humane slaughter we would normally kill at the rate of about 200 hogs per hour, but since we have had electric stunning we find something wrong if we do not top the 300 per hour mark.

Our plant is of the American pattern, having been constructed under the supervision of an American constructional engineer, and naturally we have the American machines in use, so that, size for size, we can get a fair turn of speed out, using only one hoist at a time to get the hogs bled.

In Britain not only do we control the slaughtering of animals by law, but no one under the age of 18 years is allowed to do the actual slaughtering.

Licenses are issued by local authorities for trained slaughtermen, and these licenses are renewable every 3 years subject to good behavior.

The slaughtering plant itself is also subject to license or registration by the authority in whose municipal or urban area it is situated.

Government departments draw up model bylaws to cover abattoirs, and any local authority can adopt these bylaws and enforce them in their own area if they wish. These laws deal with hygiene and the public-health aspect in general.

At the present time Parliament is considering some new legislation about the siting and construction of abattoirs, and to modify the humane slaughter acts so as to allow the use of gas, as you have it in the Hormel plant here.

Many of our small packinghouse type of bacon-curing plants are ready for the installation of the CO₂ plant, which will probably be of the Danish Wernberg type, suitable for plants with little spare space to work in.

How that will work out with a variety in size of hogs we do not yet know, but the electric stunner will always be needed as a quick and efficient standby, in case of emergency, and for the plant where the expense of installing gas is too much for the firm to bear. The captive-bolt pistol will also be used constantly in our country for stunning cattle, until some marked improvement comes along.

As far as we in Britain are concerned, the humane slaughtering of animals has been with us for over 20 years, and the newness has worn out. Business executives who years ago were its bitterest opponents are today its most fervent advocates, because they feel that having found methods which are good, and make for increased efficiency, they like others to know about it.

There is no sentimentality about it—they look upon it as a business proposition which they once opposed, but which they found later to be worth while and paying dividends.

I know of no one in Britain who would ever wish to repeal the humane slaughtering legislation.

Before I resume my seat, may I be allowed, on a personal note, to thank you for your courtesy and consideration in allowing a stranger thus to address you.

It is for me a great honor. If it is your wish to put some questions to me, I shall be pleased to endeavor to reply to the best of my ability.

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I thank you.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you very much, Colonel Anthony. Are there any questions?

If not, we are very much obliged to you for your statement.

Mr. ANTHONY. Thank you, sir.

Mr. POAGE. We will now hear from our colleague, Mr. Dorn of South Carolina.

STATEMENT OF HON. W. J. BRYAN DORN, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. DORN. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, I am here this morning to testify in support of H. R. 5820, a bill I introduced to promote the development and use of improved methods for the humane handling, transporting, and slaughtering of livestock and poultry. My bill is middle-of-the-road legislation. It recognizes that a problem exists and recognizes that improvements should be made, but it provides that improvements will be made in the American way—progress based on scientific facts and proven methods.

There is a wide difference of opinion in the world today on what is actually the most humane method of slaughter. As you have probably noticed in your hearings, different expert witnesses have testified for different methods of slaughter. One witness before your committee testified that electrocution is the most humane way. Immediately, several prominent veterinarians took exception to this testimony. Some experts say that concussion pistols are definitely the most humane. And yet, the arms manufacturer who developed the pistol

questions whether his device is ready for commercial use. We have those who believe in sacrificial slaughter, taking the position that the knife is the only proper way to kill. In the face of such conflicting testimony, all from experts, can Congress afford to say, unequivocally, that one method of slaughter is superior to another?

Mr. Chairman, we are all interested in improved methods. It is our American heritage to constantly try to improve, but it is not consistent with our American heritage to force impractical regulations on our people. My bill, if enacted, would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to engage in scientific studies and research and to furnish his findings to Congress. Also, it calls on the Secretary of Agriculture to encourage the adoption of improved methods by the different industries involved.

Last week, Mr. Chairman, I was talking with the owner of a packing plant in South Carolina. He told me that if Congress passed a law requiring him to install equipment, as suggested in one of the bills, it would cost him in excess of \$30,000. He was fearful that this expenditure would close the doors of his packinghouse permanently. I am sure, Mr. Chairman, this committee will consider all aspects of this legislation and not report favorably any of the force bills, at least, until a thorough study is made. My bill, which is supported by the Department of Agriculture, will provide just such a study. I believe that when such a study has been completed, a more humane method possibly will have been found which will meet the approval of the Congress, the humane societies, the general public, and the industries involved.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to appear before this great committee.

Mr. POAGE. Now I believe we have next Mr. Fred Myers, who wants to make a statement in connection with Mr. Anthony's statement.

STATEMENT OF FRED MYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. MYERS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to have a few minutes. I have a prepared statement which was submitted on behalf of the Humane Society of the United States, a copy of which I will supply to the stenographer and additional copies of which are available.

But I shall not afflict the committee with a reading of the full statement. I venture to hope that later the committee will find time to read it, but I know that a reading would be boring.

Mr. POAGE. Without objection, we will make your statement a part of the record and then you may proceed to make such statement here as you will.

(The prepared statement of Mr. Myers is as follows:)

STATEMENT OF FRED MYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

The Humane Society of the United States, a nonprofit membership corporation with members in every State and Territory of the United States, strongly favors prompt enactment of legislation to compel the use in packinghouses of humane methods of slaughtering animals.

Our support for such legislation is dictated by these facts:

1. In the great majority of American slaughterhouses, animals of all species are now killed with methods that cause extreme and prolonged physical pain.

2. The methods commonly used in slaughter are extremely dangerous and arduous for packing plant workers.

3. Humane methods of slaughter are available.

4. The present common methods of slaughter cause a large economic waste which burdens livestock growers, packing-plant workers, and consumers; humane methods are economically superior.

5. Despite the acknowledged cruelty and economic waste of current common methods of slaughter, it is apparent that the packing industry cannot achieve a reform without the enactment of legislation.

In support of the statements above we offer the following evidence and comment.

1. The cruelty

It probably is not necessary to document the statement that methods of slaughter now used in virtually all American packing plants cause acute and prolonged agony to animals. Packers themselves concede the fact. Mr. E. Y. Lingle, president of the Seitz Packing Co., Inc., St. Joseph, Mo., voiced what all packers know when he said in an address to a section of the American Meat Institute:

"This (slaughtering) is one phase of our business which we have always considered unpleasant, unsafe, costly, and brutal."

Mr. Lingle was telling his fellow packers, in that address, why his company has become one of the very few units of the packing industry that have abandoned the primitive brutality of common methods in favor of more modern and humane techniques.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs has described, concisely and with restraint, what is now commonly inflicted on some 200 million animals each year. A publication of the General Federation says:

"Lambs, sheep, calves, and hogs customarily are first hoisted off the floor by a chain around one hind leg, then are stabbed in the throat (or cut) in such a way that they bleed to death very slowly. Cattle usually are pounded to the floor with a sledge hammer before their throats are cut. Quite commonly a steer must be hit on the head 5 or 6 times—and often many more times—before it falls.

"The chain shackles often cut and tear hide and flesh. Struggling, bellowing and screaming animals often dislocate their own leg joints as they hang from the hoist.

"All this—and much more—occurs while the animals are fully conscious. Inspectors have seen hogs still conscious and trying to swim when dropped into the scalding tank. And calves have been seen still responding to pain stimuli while their heads were being skinned."

I have myself seen a steer hit 21 times on the head with an 8-pound hammer before it became unconscious and ceased struggling. Both horns were shattered by early blows. The stump of one of the bloody horns was torn out of the living head by the first blow that struck it and dangled loosely from a lump of mashed muscle and flesh. One blow mashed the nose of the animal to pulp and another blow crushed the lower jaw.

I have watched the dressing-out of many animals on which the hammer has been used and have observed that often the skull is fractured to the point of being pulverized.

In many plants, for many animals, not even the hammer is used. There is no attempt to stun or immobilize cattle before they are yanked off the floor by a chain around one hind ankle, to hang in moaning agony until their throats are cut. I have stood for long periods at distances of 2 or 3 feet from half-ton steers so suspended and watched their suffering reactions.

When a thousand-pound steer or fifteen-hundred pound bull is hoisted in that way, the strain on muscle, tendon, and bone is tremendous. The whole of the great weight hangs from one ankle. The animal swings and struggles. I have often seen the chain shackle bite into the flesh of the ankle until blood streamed down the leg. The tongue comes far out of the gasping mouth. The eyeballs protrude startingly.

It is often found, in the dressing-out, that the weight and struggles of the animal, while hanging on the hoist, have dislocated ankle, knee, and shoulder joints.

I have seen animals more or less regularly hang on the hoist for from 3 to 5 minutes while awaiting the knife that ultimately cut their conscious throats.

Hogs, lambs, sheep, and calves also are commonly hoisted while entirely conscious and their throats stuck or cut while they are fully sensible to pain. Death does not come quickly or easily.

Edward R. Swem, editor of the National Provisioner, leading magazine of the packing industry, has written (the National Provisioner, October 4, 1952) of how hogs are "chivvied up a ramp * * * hoisted kicking and twisting, to arrive at the second, third, or fourth level excited and exhausted, with a spread hind and damaged hams." Mr. Swem speaks, also, of "the shackling pen with its dirt, danger, employee irritation and uneven work flow."

The Animal Husbandry Department of the University of Minnesota found, in a study conducted in 1954-55, that "the common packing plant practice of shackling hogs" is causing damage to 97 percent of the shackled hams and that the average loss in meat (passed back, of course, to farmers or passed on to consumers) is \$1.50 per animal (cf. Farm Journal and Country Gentleman, October 1955).

It is self-evident that methods of slaughter that almost without exception cause "a spread hind and damaged hams" are violently painful to the animals.

2. Labor conditions

The proposed legislation would be justified as a protection for packing plant workers even if no consideration were to be given to the cruelty to animals.

It is a notorious fact that the accident rate in the packing industry is substantially higher than that for industry as a whole. In 1955, for example, all general manufacturing had an accident rate of 12.1 accidents per million man-hours. But the meat industry had a rate of 21.3. And one of the points of very highest accident rate within the meat industry is in handling of animals at the point of slaughter—in shackling pens and knocking pens.

The president of the Seitz Packing Co. (E. Y. Lingle, cited above) has said that when the current common methods are used "cattle knocking is an unsafe job because when a man swings a 5-pound hammer over his head and misses his object or makes a glancing blow—it produces a great strain on the man." Mr. Lingle also has said that the job of knocking cattle with a hammer "is one of the most difficult jobs in the plant to keep filled."

Packers experience the same difficulty, in greater degree, in keeping men in hog shackling pens. All packers find that as soon as a man gains sufficient seniority he "posts out" of the shackling job, even to jobs at lower wage rates.

The high labor turnover at these points in packing houses is due both to the danger of injury and the dislike of most men for the method of handling animals.

All of the variety of humane methods of slaughter that are available have the effect of improving working conditions and reducing the accident rate materially.

3. Better methods are available

The cruelties now inflicted on animals in most packing plants, and the hazards to which workers are exposed, are unnecessary by any criterion. Humane methods of killing animals are available and they offer important economic advantages and improve working conditions.

These statements have been conclusively proved true by extensive practical experience in packing plants.

Two of the largest pork packers in America, for example, are humanely anesthetizing hogs before slaughter. One of these progressive companies is George A. Hormel & Co. The other is the Kingan division of Hygrade Food Products Corp. In two plants, at Austin, Minn., and Fremont, Nebr., the Hormel Co. kills about 20,000 hogs a day. The Kingan plant, at Indianapolis, Ind., kills approximately 8,000 hogs daily on a single shift.

All of these plants are using carbon dioxide to anesthetize hogs before they are slaughtered. The hogs ride on a moving belt into a tunnel filled with the gas and they go quickly and quietly to sleep as they ride. They are slaughtered while unconscious.

The Hormel Co. has been using this method since 1952. The Kingan plant installed its carbon dioxide equipment last November. Both companies find their humane method superior in every respect to the more brutal methods formerly used. Economic factors will be discussed below but it is relevant to note here that carbon dioxide equipment is within the financial capabilities of even the very smallest packers that would be affected by the proposed legislation. Equipment that will handle up to 60 hogs per hour can be had for only \$3,500—hardly more than the price of a small delivery truck.

It is clear that no further research or study is needed to find a means of ending the cruelty of current common methods of slaughtering hogs. The research is done; the experimental period is past.

Carbon dioxide also can be used to anesthetize other species of animals. L. W. Murphy, spokesman for George A. Hormel & Co., has said that "we are sure" that the technique being used on hogs is applicable to calves, lambs, and sheep. It is equally certainly usable for cattle. Carbon dioxide already is being routinely used by C. A. Swanson & Sons, a subsidiary of the Campbell Soup Co., to anesthetize turkeys before slaughter.

But other equally practical and economical methods of slaughtering animals humanely are also available to packers. And all of these additional methods, like carbon dioxide anesthetization, have been proved in actual commercial use in profitable packing plants.

Several American packing plants and many hundreds of plants abroad, for example, have long been using the captive-bolt pistol to stun animals, making them instantaneously insensible to pain, before slaughter. The captive-bolt pistol is a simple instrument, in appearance much like an ordinary pistol. Instead of discharging a free bullet, however, the captive-bolt pistol impels the end of a steel bolt, which slides up and down in the barrel of the pistol, into the skull of an animal.

Unlike the hammer, the captive-bolt pistol requires little skill in the workman and it is virtually foolproof. Whereas an average of approximately three blows is required to fell a steer with a hammer, the captive-bolt pistol almost infallibly drops such animals, instantaneously unconscious, with one shot.

Oscar Mayer & Co., one of the larger and more profitable American packing plants, has for years been using the captive-bolt pistol. The president of Seitz Packing Co. has said:

"The captive-bolt pistol is so easy to use and so effective that we have had no desire to go back to the old hammer method. Our results are better, our operations more efficient, our end product is improved—and we're slaughtering cattle in a much more humane fashion."

At least a dozen other packers have had the same experience. They have proved, under commercial conditions, that the captive-bolt pistol is humane and practical.

The captive-bolt pistol can be and often is used on sheep, lambs, and calves as well as beef animals. It prevents all of the usual suffering of the slaughtering process.

Still other methods are available.

The Remington Arms Co. has developed, and now is offering to all packers, a stunning instrument that is similar in basic principle to the captive-bolt pistol. No bolt enters the animal's skull, however. Unconsciousness is caused by impact of a mushroom-shaped hammer that is impelled by firing of a small cartridge. The Remington Co. has tested its instrument in packing plants all over America on tens of thousands of animals of all species. It already is being routinely used by some packers.

Other patented stunning devices also are available. Some of these have been in use abroad for many years. The Consolidated Dressed Beef Co., Philadelphia, for example, uses the Schermer stunner, an instrument made in Germany. The company finds the Schermer instrument entirely satisfactory in practical packing plant operation.

To prevent suffering in poultry, some packers use an electric knife." The electric knife makes a bird instantaneously insensible to pain.

The outstanding fact about all of this variety of humane methods that are available is that every one of them already is in routine and profitable use in at least a few American packing plants and in many more packinghouses abroad.

It was suggested last year to the Senate Agriculture Committee, and it has been suggested this year to the House of Representatives, that the packing industry is willing to adopt humane methods of slaughtering animals but needs more time—probably many years—to "study" the matter. The Humane Society of the United States submits that such suggestions are nonsense—nonsense in the precise dictionary meaning of the word.

No special "study" committee or commission is needed to determine that two of the largest pork packers and one of the largest poultry slaughterers in America have used carbon dioxide on many millions of animals and birds and have proved that the method is practical as well as humane. No study is needed to reveal that some of the most efficient and profitable packing plants in America

have used the captive-bolt pistol or one of the patented stunning instruments on more millions of animals and have proved them practical and humane.

The packers of the whole of Great Britain, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and sections of Germany, France, and Austria have been operating under compulsory humane slaughter laws for many years. No research or study is needed to reveal that the packing industries of those countries have found practical means of eliminating cruelty.

4. ECONOMIC FACTORS

There is no valid economic objection to the proposed legislation. It offers, indeed, economic benefits to livestock growers, to consumers, and to the packing industry.

Current common methods of slaughter are inefficient and costly. Humane methods of slaughter would improve labor productivity and eliminate waste due to bruising and maiming of animals.

Consider the significance of the University of Minnesota study cited above. The university found that in the plants where the study was conducted, the shackles used on hogs caused damage to 97 percent of all shackled hams and that the monetary loss per hog was \$1.50. The university figures were derived from only one plant, but it was one of the better plants of America and it is reasonable to suppose that the average would be applicable within narrow limits to all slaughtering of the shackle-hoist-stick variety.

Since some 90 million hogs are slaughtered annually in America, the University of Minnesota study indicates that our Nation may be paying a bill of about \$140 million annually for our cruelty to hogs.

The burden of that waste probably falls principally on farmers, in the form of depressed prices for livestock.

To our knowledge, no study similar to the University of Minnesota investigation of injury to hogs has been conducted to determine what economic waste is occurring among cattle and other species. It is obvious, however, that if a 250-pound hog is seriously injured and damaged by being shackled and hoisted, a half-ton steer or 1,500-pound bull will be even more severely injured and damaged because of its greater weight. Such damage to meat can be entirely eliminated by use of humane methods of slaughter.

It is an established fact that cattle stunned with a captive bolt pistol suffer fewer bruises than cattle on which a hammer is used. The cattle bleed more thoroughly than animals that are frightened and subjected to prolonged physical pain, thus improving the market quality of the meat.

When carbon dioxide is used on hogs, Hormel has reported, 0.3 pound more blood is obtained from each animal than when the primitive shackling-hoisting method was used. This makes better meat and tends to support prices paid to livestock producers.

The Seitz Packing Co. offers this evidence about labor productivity when a captive-bolt pistol is used:

"We have made time studies of the slaughtering of several hundred cattle and we find that we can load the gun and shoot 1 cattle every 7 seconds. On the basis of 1 cattle every 10 seconds, 1 man can slaughter 360 cattle per hour and he can continue to do this all day long because his work is much easier than when he used the hammer."

Hormel has reported that it has achieved a labor economy, from the first day of its use of carbon dioxide.

Some packers have objected to the proposed legislation because, they say, initiation of humane methods of slaughter would require a ruinous investment of capital. Such objections are unfounded in fact.

A captive-bolt pistol costs only \$120. The time study conducted by the Seitz Co., cited above, shows that even a quite large slaughtering plant would need to invest in only 2 or 3 captive-bolt pistols to comply fully with the proposed legislation in its slaughter of cattle, sheep, lambs, and calves. As an alternative, a plant may use the Remington stunner or the Schermer stunner. The Remington instrument sells for just over \$200, the Schermer instrument for less.

The cost of installing carbon-dioxide equipment varies, depending on the floor plan and construction details of plants in which it is installed. It is said that one of the Hormel installations cost above \$200,000, but this included the cost of remodeling a large building. The carbon-dioxide unit itself, with a capacity of 10,000 hogs per day, is priced by its manufacturer at about \$65,000. As was mentioned above, the same manufacturer is offering a unit that will anesthetize

60 hogs per hour for approximately \$3,500. The capital cost of these units, spread over the total number of hogs that the units will process, is only a very small fraction of a cent per animal.

The cost of operating a carbon dioxide anesthetizing unit is so small as to be negligible. The carbon dioxide itself costs less than one-fiftieth of a cent per animal. The only other operating costs are for electric power and for routine maintenance of the moving conveyors. They have proved in hard usage to be virtually trouble free.

The cost of using a captive-bolt pistol or one of the patented stunners is only the cost of the single .22-caliber cartridge that is used for each animal. These average to about 2.2 cents each. Since the packer invests more than \$200 in every beef animal before it is ready for the consumer, the 2 cents that humane slaughter might cost is not a significant economic factor.

A few packers have objected to use of the captive-bolt pistol on the ground that the bolt sometimes causes damage to the brains of animals, making the brains unsalable as human food. The argument is exceedingly weak. A cattle brain usually is worth less than 5 cents to the packer, even when it can be sold. But less than 10 percent of the brain available can be sold as human food. There simply is no market for the brain produced. Relatively few packers even attempt to save the brain for the food market. The alleged waste of brain is, therefore, not important. In any event, the Remington stunner does not damage the brain and may be used instead of the captive-bolt pistol.

Finally, it is important to reemphasize that all of the costs of these humane methods of slaughter are not genuine costs in an accounting sense—they are, instead, investments that return a net profit.

This profit is not a mere theory or a rationalization by sentimental people who abhor cruelty. It is an actual dollars-and-cents profit that has been proved to exist by the experience of successful, dollarwise packingplant managements. It is notable that George A. Hormel & Co. was last year one of the most profitable enterprises in the whole packing industry. The Hormel Co. has itself said that it developed the carbon-dioxide technique not out of humane motives but to make a profit. Every plant in America that uses one of the humane methods of slaughtering animals certifies that these methods are efficient and profitable.

5. Legislation is necessary

It is not possible for the packing industry to end the cruelty of current common slaughter methods without the help of compulsory legislation. This is no reflection on the men who manage the industry; it is a fact that results from the huge size and complexity of the industry and from some of the weaknesses of human nature.

Some packers have contended that the industry is making progress toward adoption of humane methods of slaughter and they point proudly to the very few companies that have instituted humane methods. But the very paucity of plants using humane methods emphasizes that, in fact, compulsory legislation is needed.

The American Meat Institute established a committee to study slaughter methods in 1929—nearly 30 years ago. The captive-bolt pistol has been available, and well known to packers, for almost that length of time. The carbon-dioxide method of making animals insensible to pain has been in use for 6 years. The Schermer stunner has been used all over Europe for 25 years. Electric stunning has been widely used throughout the world for about 20 years (it is regularly used by two very small packers in America).

But, despite the fact that the American Meat Institute says that it has been studying slaughter methods since 1929, some packers still ask the Congress to grant them much more time to study the proved methods that they refuse to adopt.

The parallel with the situation in 1905-6, when the Congress enacted a law compelling packing plants to maintain decent standards of sanitation, is striking. Most packers contended, at that time, that the legislation would be ruinous. Their fears were unfounded. So it will be with humane slaughter legislation: humane methods of slaughter will be found, in practice, to be beneficial to the industry, not harmful.

Summary

The Humane Society of the United States urges the Congress to enact compulsory humane slaughter legislation, fundamentally based on H. R. 176, H. R. 2088, H. R. 3029, or the Senate bill, S. 1497.

Such legislation will be economically beneficial to the Nation and will be of advantage to packinghouse workers.

Were these benefits not a fact, however, still the legislation should be enacted because a great and fundamental issue of morality is involved.

It is basic in our American moral code and in our law that cruelty to animals is impermissible. Cruelty is named as a sin by every one of the major religions of our people. The existence among us of a cruelty to hundreds of millions yearly, with the implied blessing of law, is inconsistent with our desire to give moral leadership and direction to a troubled world.

The cruelty cannot be abolished except by law. One might as logically suggest repeal of all existing anticruelty laws as to argue that one of the most repugnant and gargantuan cruelties of the Nation will be ended voluntarily.

The whole of the American public will applaud the Congress for enactment of the proposed legislation.

Mr. MYERS. I shall be really brief. I would like to devote myself to comment upon some testimony which has been offered earlier, rather than merely offering additional positive testimony which I have submitted in writing.

The point to which I would first like to address myself and most emphatically address myself, is the recommendations that much greater time be devoted to study of the question that is before your committee.

I have devoted the last 5 or 6 years of my life to what I think is a fairly expensive study of this matter. I have visited and spent long and sad days in many dozens of slaughter plants.

I have sat in the Library of Congress and other places of research for additional long days studying the economics of the packing industry and of the measures that would be involved if these recommendations were adopted and enacted.

I have done everything that I could to find out about what has already been studied and learned, and Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee, with that background of effort on my part, I am prepared to assert that there is absolutely no need for a further prolonged period of study of the methods of slaughter, and even though I give respect to Dr. Clarkson who spoke this morning and acknowledged that he is a greater scientist than I, who am no scientist, still I venture to dispute the assertion that there is great disagreement about whether the methods about which you have heard are humane, and I venture to dispute the statement that years, perhaps, of study are needed in order to determine what can be done.

The best evidence that they study has already been done and perfected is in the fact that the many methods of slaughtering animals humanely already are in successful use in successful and profitable packinghouses.

They are already studied far beyond the probable resources of the Department of Agriculture by the great resources of private industry seeking profit and efficiency.

And when George A. Hormel & Co. first and then the high-grade food products companies second and then packers in numbers of countries in Europe all certify that the use of carbon dioxide is efficient, is rapid, is economical, and when eminent medical authorities who have used it on thousands and thousands of human beings certify that it is humane, I really do not understand why a Government department should then join any other interest in saying that this should be subjected to great and prolonged study.

I would like to call the attention of the committee in relevance to this matter of further study to a book which is entitled "Carbon Dioxide Therapy." It is written by Dr. L. J. Meduna. He is professor of psychiatry at the University of Illinois, and he reports in his book published in 1951 his experience in the use of carbon dioxide on many thousands of human patients in psychiatric treatment, and he certifies completely that the patients suffer nothing, they undergo repeated treatment willingly.

There is no untoward effect at all, and I submit that this, the result of a quarter of a century of study by one of the most eminent medical men of the country is sufficient all by itself.

It need not rest entirely on one man's testimony, however. There are a great many other medical men who have testified that carbon dioxide is humane.

In passing I might say that I have myself stood within 2 feet of hogs, hundreds and hundreds of hogs coming out of a carbon dioxide tunnel, and my sole objective in standing there and watching was to watch for reflexes to pain stimuli, the eyeballs, the minute movements which would betray any reflex, any feeling when the knife is plunged into the throat, and I, whose dedication vocationally and avocationally is to this humane work certify to you, having stood and watched it at close range for this very purpose, that there is no slightest sign that any animal going through a carbon dioxide tunnel suffers any distress or any subsequent pain.

You have heard testimony about the use of captive-bolt pistol, the Remington stunner, the Schermer stunner, the electric shock technique, and I am not going to repeat it except just to emphasize that all of these things have been used now for many years. They are certified by successful packers to be desirable and they are certified by humane societies of the entire world to be humane, and I do not believe that the committee should give too much attention to anyone who now at this very late date contends that they need further study.

I would like to make one more point, Mr. Chairman, and then I will relinquish the floor. That is on the economics of the matter.

I am aware as you and the other members of the Agriculture Committee certainly must be aware, that an effort has been made by interested parties to alarm farmers and livestock producers about the possible economic effects of enactment of a compulsory humane slaughter law.

Some associations of livestock producers have in fact been induced to oppose the enactment of a humane slaughter law by that consideration.

It must be by that consideration because certainly as the gentleman who was here this morning made clear, no man who spends his life with the animals, raising them, would wish to see them slaughtered by an inhumane method.

The only possible reason that the growers of livestock would oppose the enactment of this law would be fear that there would be ruinous economic effects.

As to that, again I call your attention with emphasis to the fact that in our own country quite a number, although it is still a relatively small number but objectively quite a number of very successful packinghouses are using these methods that we advocate and find them

profitable, and it is quite notable, I think, worthy of emphatic note, that George A. Hormel & Co., which has now installed or has virtually installed the use of carbon dioxide in its third and last plant, last year was reported to be the most profitable of all American packing companies.

I think that it is more than accidental coincidence that the most profitable firm is the one that has gone furthest toward the use of humane methods of killing animals.

Such companies as Oscar Mayer and the Great Falls Meat Co. of Great Falls, Minn., and the Seitz Co. in St. Joseph, Mo., which is building a new and modern and successful plant and many others are using the captive-bolt pistol, have used it for years, find that it is profitable, and as I have reported in the written statement that I submitted to you, they have repeatedly told their colleagues and peers of the American Meat Institute and the other packinghouse associations that they think all the other packers could profitably adopt the same methods.

In conclusion I would like to say a very personal word about the kosher problem. I not only am not anti-Semitic, I am one who very vigorously detests the vileness which in human nature sometimes produces anti-Semitism.

I would not for one instant advocate anything which was designed to impair the rights nor injure the sensibilities of any religious group. I had quite a bit of part in conference which led to the language presented on the exemption section of the bill introduced by Representative Dawson, H. R. 3029, and the bill introduced in the Senate this year by Senator Humphrey, S. 1497, from which was derived still another House bill.

Those of you who know anything of the political history and philosophy of Senator Humphrey will know that it is not even to be conceived that he would join in introducing a bill which he thought cast any reflection upon any religion.

All of us though, I think, know that it is quite impossible as a matter of syntax and semantics to read in Representative Dawson's bill or Senator Humphrey's bill any reflection, implicit or subtle, upon the Jewish method of slaughter.

The language is that it is an approved method of slaughter, and if the Congress of the United States enacts the law which says that the Jewish method of slaughter or that of any other religion is by the Congress of the United States deemed to be an approved method of slaughter, I do not see how that could be construed as reflecting upon anyone.

Mr. Chairman, I think that the question that you asked Mr. Pfeffer was sensitively conceived and well put.

Unless the position were to be that it is impossible for the United States Government to enact any kind of humane slaughter bill, then a bill such as that presented by Representative Dawson and Senator Humphrey must be acceptable.

I conclude by saying that our society urges the enactment of compulsory legislation of the type exemplified by H. R. 176, 2088, 3029, 6422, and 6509, or the companion Senate bill, S. 1497.

We would deplore the enactment of a bill which would merely prolong the problem that we are attempting after these many years to solve.

I thank you for allowing me so much time.

Mr. POAGE. We are very much obliged to you, Mr. Myers. I think it would be in order, in view of what you have said, I think I should call attention to the fact that members of this committee have visited both the conventional plants and plants like Seitz and Hormel that are using these other methods.

A number of the members of this committee have actually stood in the place of the killer there and have actually operated some of these modern methods themselves and we have seen these things.

Mr. MYERS. Mr. Poage, I was aware of that, and had I not been so intent on saving time, I had intended to say that many thousands of people appreciate deeply the sense of duty which led you and your committee to make that trip last October.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Chairman, may I say to Mr. Myers that I think he has made a contribution to the committee in answering or at least attempting to answer the statement made by representatives of the Department of Agriculture, particularly Dr. Clarkson, that research was needed, and much fundamental knowledge is lacking upon which to base an opinion of the acceptability of one method over another from the standpoint of humaneness and that research was needed in connection with the matter of what pain might be suffered.

I don't believe it to be anti-intellectual to conclude that, since a child cries when he suffers pain, a pig that squeals may also be suffering pain; and to conclude further that if a form of gas will render a human being insensible to pain it will also render an animal insensible to pain. That would be my reaction. I might be wrong.

Mr. MYERS. Your reaction has scientific justification, if I may take 30 seconds. I said just in passing that the humane societies of the entire world certify that these methods that are under discussion are humane. That was not a statement that cannot be documented.

For example, having read many books of this kind and many little magazine excerpts, I concluded that I knew something about carbon dioxide. I didn't want to afflict you with the details on other matters.

But on other matters, Dr. Clarkson did say something about the electroencephalographicness as a part of this study.

The humane societies have already done that. I could present to you a very detailed study with the aid of the electroencephalograph of the effects of electric stunning, so that we could determine whether it was actually unconsciousness, insensibility to pain, or whether it was merely a form of paralysis.

The humane societies have been studying this for decades, and many eminent authorities have taken part in these studies incidentally, and it is a very late date for the Department of Agriculture or any self-interested group to recommend that we begin to study.

Mr. ALBERT. You think then that there is no question but that it is a scientific fact these methods of killing or stunning animals are more humane than the normal methods used in the older types of slaughterhouses?

Mr. MYERS. If I had the slightest doubt, I would be out trying to find out. I am quite satisfied.

Thank you, sir.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you very much.

Now before we proceed any further, I want to introduce to our visitors here and our guests the chairman of the Agriculture Committee who went with the subcommittee visiting some of the packing plants this summer.

Mr. Cooley, Harold Cooley, of North Carolina, has just come in. He is the chairman of the committee and has already expressed interest in this matter. We are delighted to have you with us, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. COOLEY. Thank you very much, Mr. Poage.

Mr. POAGE. I think there are about four more witnesses in favor of this bill, and I wondered if we might not hear them first and then conclude the argument of the proponents with their picture, and then take up the opponents of the bill. That would seem to me to possibly be a more orderly procedure.

If there isn't any objection I am going to call Mrs. Genevieve Oslund.

Mr. MYERS. Mr. Chairman, it is not my turn but Mrs. Oslund, when she left for lunch, told me that she might not be able to get back immediately, but she has left her statement.

Mr. POAGE. She has left her statement which we will without objection make a part of the record.

Mr. MYERS. I hope the committee understands she is speaking for the General Federation of Women's Clubs which has an affiliated membership of 11 million women.

Mr. POAGE. We do understand and we understand that the procedure in our program is such that it makes it impossible for all of the witnesses to be with us at the moment.

Mr. MYERS. Isn't it lucky they are not all here?

Mr. POAGE. We might be here for several more days if they were.

(The prepared statement of Mrs. R. I. C. Prout, president, as submitted by Mrs. Genevieve Oslund is as follows:)

STATEMENT BY MRS. R. I. C. PROUT, PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

The General Federation of Women's Clubs is an organization with an active membership of 875,000 women and an associate membership of 4½ million in the United States.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs endorsed objectives of slaughter reform at a national convention in May 1956, as follows:

"Whereas studies reveal instances of cruel methods in the handling and commercial slaughter of animals, although more humane procedures have been developed and are available and practicable: Therefore

"Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs endorses the objectives of slaughter reform and asks club members to investigate as to conditions in their own communities and to require humane practices where needed."

You will note that this resolution asked the club members to investigate conditions in their local communities and to work towards humane practices locally.

Women are inherently opposed to cruelty. And since it has come to their attention that some slaughterhouses use extremely cruel methods of slaughter, and that others use methods which make the animals unconscious or insensible to pain, the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges Federal legislation to require all slaughterhouses to use humane methods.

The following is information which we sent to our members as a guide in their study and research as to local slaughter conditions, and to assist them in their efforts to secure humane methods in the slaughter of animals.

The General Federation of Women's Clubs urgently requests this Congress to pass a bill that will make mandatory humane slaughter of animals which are to be used for human consumption.

THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

The 1956 convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs adopted this resolution:

"Whereas studies reveal instances of cruel methods in the handling and commercial slaughter of animals, although more humane procedures have been developed and are practiced: Therefore

Resolved, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs endorses the objective of slaughter reform and asks club members to investigate as to conditions in their own communities and to require humane practices where needed."

A MORAL ISSUE

Speaking in terms of morality, our Nation long ago outlawed cruelty to animals. Every one of the major religions of our people names cruelty a sin. Every State of the Union, the Federal Government, and almost every county, city and village have declared in a multitude of laws that cruelty to animals is impermissible. All thoughtful persons recognize that cruelty is an evil that should be eradicated from our society, not merely for the sake of animals but for our own good. We know that cruelty, whether to animals or to men, causes in the perpetrator a moral and cultural erosion that is harmful to the whole of society.

Cruelty to animals in our slaughterhouses has been thus far permitted only because, it is argued, cruelty is cheaper than decency. The immorality of the argument is obvious.

Given the facts that are contained in this folder, the obligation of every American is made clear by a line from John Ruskin: "He who is not actively kind, is cruel."

The cruelties of our slaughterhouses will end whenever we actively demand it.

THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE CRUELTY

There will be no detailed description, in this leaflet, of the crude cruelties that are the almost universal routine in the killing rooms of American slaughterhouses. Descriptions can be found in the transcript of public Senate hearings on this matter, held May 9-10, 1956. The transcript can be obtained from the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

Suffice it to say, here, that lambs, sheep, calves, and hogs customarily are first hoisted off the floor by a chain around one hind leg, then are stabbed in the throat (or cut) in such a way that they bleed to death very slowly. Cattle usually are pounded to the floor with a sledgehammer before their throats are cut. Quite commonly a steer must be hit on the head 5 or 6 times—and often many more times—before it falls.

The chain shackles often cut and tear hide and flesh. Struggling, bellowing, and screaming animals often dislocate their own leg joints as they hang from the hoist.

All this—and much more—occurs while the animals are fully conscious. Inspectors have seen hogs still conscious and trying to swim when dropped into the scalding tank. And calves have been seen still responding to pain stimuli while their heads were being skinned.

These things are happening every day in the year.

THERE ARE BETTER WAYS

The cruelties of the slaughterhouse killing rooms are not necessary. They are not even economical.

The truth of these statements is proved by the fact that some packing companies have adopted humane methods and certify that these methods are profitable.

George A. Hormel & Co., for example, for 6 years has been using carbon dioxide (the gaseous state of dry ice) to anesthetize hogs before slaughter. The hogs ride on a moving belt into a trough of the invisible and odorless gas, they go peacefully to sleep as they ride, and they never regain consciousness. A Hormel executive told a Senate committee that this humane technique has actually decreased Hormel's labor costs.

The hearings further revealed that Oscar Mayer & Co., another big packer, has for years been using the humane captive-bolt pistol to make cattle instantly unconscious before they are shackled, hoisted, or cut. The captive-bolt pistol

also is used in about a dozen other plants. The pistol entirely eliminates the brutalities of the sledgehammer.

The tiny Paulus Meat Co., at Cedarburg, Wis., uses electricity to stun hogs into instant unconsciousness before a hand is laid on them. Other small plants kill animals instantly and painlessly with a rifle bullet in the brain.

C. A. Swanson & Sons, a subsidiary of the Campbell Soup Co., uses carbon dioxide to anesthetize turkeys before slaughter.

All of the methods mentioned are in very wide use in Europe, where many countries already have humane-slaughter laws.

The proof is indisputable that humane methods of killing animals and fowl are available and are mechanically and economically practical. The packing industry itself has provided the proof.

IS A LAW NEEDED?

It is clear that the packing industry will not end its cruelty to animals until it is compelled to do so by law. It would hardly be expected that so vast an industry, with thousands of independently managed units, would achieve a voluntary reform.

Laws requiring humane methods of killing meat animals now are in force in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and sections of Germany, France, and Austria. In none of those countries, however, was humane slaughter achieved without law.

For the same reasons that a Federal law was required to induce packers to adopt and maintain adequate sanitary standards, law will be required to achieve decent humaneness to animals.

The very few packers that have adopted humane methods emphasizes the fact that the majority of packers will not end cruelty voluntarily.

WHAT WOMEN CAN DO

The American public—and particularly American women—can stop the cruelty of slaughterhouses. Public opinion can move the greatest corporations and inspire legislators to action.

Women's clubs, and their members, can act in the following ways:

1. First, get the facts. Make arrangements with your local slaughterhouse for a visit by clubwomen. See the killing done. Learn precisely what methods are used by the big national packers. Read the testimony of packers, Government officials, and humane society experts in the hearings of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry in the Senate of May 1956. Give the superintendent of the slaughterhouse a copy of the GFWC resolution.

2. Discuss the facts in a club meeting. Read the resolution adopted by the GFWC at the annual convention in Kansas City, 1956.

3. Information about the proposed visit to the slaughterhouse, and its purpose, together with a copy of the GFWC resolution, should be given to your local papers.

4. Letters supporting legislation for humane slaughter, and enclosing copies of the GFWC resolution should go to the Secretary of Agriculture, to the chairmen of the Agriculture Committees of the Senate and the House, to the United States Senators and Representatives from your own State and to newspapers.

5. Individual women can help by insisting that only meat from humanely killed animals be made available in their communities and by making known the urgency of legislation to provide for humane slaughter.

All United States Senators can be addressed at the Senate Office Building, and United States Representatives at the House Office Building, in Washington. If you do not know the names of your own Senators and Representative, you can get them from your local newspaper or your city or town hall.

The best way to make sure you know the facts is to visit a slaughterhouse and see what is done there. For club committees and individual women who plan to visit killing rooms the scorecard on the back page of this folder will be useful. In a humanely operated plant, it should be possible to check every question, except number 1, in the "No" column.

If you would like to receive a copy of humane slaughter bills coming before the 85th Congress, send a request to your congressman. Additional copies of this folder can be obtained from general federation headquarters.

CHECKLIST FOR SLAUGHTERHOUSE INSPECTION

	Yes	No
1. Are food and water provided in stock pens?-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are clubs or canes used to drive animals to killing or shackling pens?-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Do clubs or prods have spiked points?-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are clubs or prods used on unusually tender parts of animals? (Use in the rectum is common.)-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Are animals hosed with water? (This is frequently done to make electric prods more painful.)-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. When hogs are being shackled for hoisting, do the shacklers strike animals with the chains and metal hooks?-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Are hogs, lambs, sheep, or calves conscious and sensible to pain when they are shackled, hoisted, and cut or "stuck"?-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Are beef animals cut while conscious and sensible to pain?-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. If cattle are being stunned with a hammer, observe the stunning of several animals and then answer this question: Was more than one hammer blow required for any animal?-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Did you observe any handling of animals that caused pain and that you thought unnecessary?-----	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

NOTE.—Animals may seem unconscious when they are not. Observe closely to determine whether supposedly stunned or anesthetized animals react to pain stimuli. Note the time between shackling of an animal and the point at which it bleeds into unconsciousness. Note whether chains and shackles are causing painful injuries to conscious animals. Find out whether shackling and hoisting is causing fractured leg joints, fractured pelvis, and torn tissues and tendons.

Mr. POAGE. Mr. Liljenquist is next, I believe. You represent the Western Meat Packers and I presume are in opposition to this.

I don't believe Mr. Liljenquist is here either.

Miss Virginia Sargent. We will be glad to hear you, Miss Sargent. Following Miss Sargent we will hear Miss Frances Holway.

STATEMENT OF MISS VIRGINIA W. SARGENT, ANIMAL PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

Miss SARGENT. I represent the Animal Protective Association of Washington.

Mr. POAGE. You may be seated or stand just as you like. If you would prefer to stand it is perfectly permissible.

Miss SARGENT. Promotion of humane legislation to protect all classes of abused animal life is an important part of the work of the Animal Protective Association.

We are eager, therefore, to urge, moreover, demand compulsory humane slaughter legislation and its enactment in the shortest possible time, so that at long last we afford some measure of decency to the taking of the innocent lives of millions and millions of innocent four-footed and feathered creatures which the majority of Americans demand for their tables.

Too many of these have been totally indifferent to or ignorant of the barbarous methods employed.

Others, however, both vegetarians—of which I am one—and meat-eaters, have pleaded for years for our professing Christian Nation to adopt the humane methods that most European countries now practice.

The packers, however, with speeded-up modern methods of dressing and marketing carcasses, still plead for more time to "study" better ways of carrying out the most important part of their traffic—taking the lives of the speechless creatures involved.

For some 28 years they have poked along in this. Today only about three major packing plants have humane equipment for even a part of the living, sentient, materiel, with all the rest in all the other plants still dying in terror and pain.

Now through the drastic proddings of such humane organizations as the Humane Society of the United States, the American Humane Association, the Massachusetts SPCA, and others, and the start of the Senate hearings by Senator Hubert Humphrey last session, congressional representatives have investigated and become convinced of the unspeakable methods of killing food creatures in the great United States of America.

We are now most grateful for the introduction of four bills for compulsory humane slaughter to, respectively, Hon. William A. Dawson, for H. R. 3029; to Hon. Martha Griffiths, for H. R. 176; to Hon. George P. Miller, for H. R. 2880; and to Hon. Edgar Hiestand, for H. R. 3049; also for their factual remarks set forth, resulting from the investigations, and for their ardent pleas for mercy for those which cannot speak for themselves.

God will surely bless them for speaking to right the wrongs to so many of His creatures and all others who support theirs and other later merciful measures which may come forth in either legislative body.

On the other hand, we strongly condemn any bill insisting upon "further study" time granted the packers, who have already too well proven their lack of serious consideration and intention, save in a very few cases, to voluntarily mend their cruel ways.

With the bringing into the open by the investigating committee the disgraceful methods of American slaughtering, and several remedies already available or still being tested in the line of really humane slaughter instruments, through the efforts of humane organizations, the time has come for immediate action.

The now enlightened public will no longer condone the commercial greed of the packing industry. It is the most definite Christian obligation (as well as that of God-fearing Jews) of every American citizen, especially those who insist upon feeding upon millions upon millions of God's creatures, to insist also that the victims of their appetities be both humanely transported and killed.

Otherwise, they had better be deprived of flesh foods altogether and forced to become vegetarians. As such they would be both more humane and more healthy, anyhow.

Certainly, the Animal Protective Association will do all in its power to speed the means of obeying our Saviour's command, "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful" (Luke 6:36).

We thank you for Christian consideration of our plea.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you very much, Miss Sargent.

Now we will hear from Mrs. Frances A. Holway.

STATEMENT OF FRANCES A. HOLWAY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mrs. HOLWAY. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Frances Holway. I am a housewife, a mother, and a grandmother, and I believe I represent thousands of other housewives, mothers, and grandmothers who want their children to be brought up in a moral world.

God, you know, has always been an integral part of our Nation. Our forefathers, when they signed the Declaration of Independence, called upon nature, God, and the Supreme Judge of the world for authority to found a new nation.

This Nation was to be built on the laws of God. There were to be many freedoms. There was to be freedom of enterprise and freedom of religion or there was to be freedom not to partake in enterprise and not to practice any religion.

But none of these freedoms were to be construed as privilege or license to commit immoral acts.

This would be a country of law and order. The weak would be protected and the defenseless would be defended. Actually there are two distinct questions before us now, and perhaps we have been making the mistake of confusing the two.

The first one is purely moral. In an ethical society does anyone have the right to inflict suffering on living flesh or to make a profit by doing so?

The moral answer can only be "No", which means that we must have a public law to prevent it.

To be sure, most of the laws which you enact nowadays are primarily regulations to improve the economy. Seldom do you now face an issue which involves a moral conflict of the law of God, so naturally you may get into thinking of yourselves more as economists than as keepers of the public morale.

But keepers of the public morals you must be none the less when the occasion arises, and the occasion has now arisen.

The second question before us is economic. Assuming that we have done the moral thing, assuming that we have passed compulsory legislation, how then can we best help the packers in the practical problem of changing over to our prescribed methods?

As an adjunct to the compulsory law, I personally would have no objection to House Resolution 5820. Anything that will help an animal would be O. K. with me. In fact, you can double my taxes if you want to, if you can assure that the Department of Agriculture will give proportionate results.

But unfortunately all the taxpayers do not reflect my sentiments. In fact, rumor has it that this Congress is at present a little bit reluctant to give big new appropriations to any department, and this bill is an omnibus bill.

This bill would take in practically every humane problem that we have on the books regarding cattle and pigs, and to do the bill justice, it would take a tremendous appropriation.

Last week I spent 2 hours almost in the Department of Agriculture with Dr. Miller discussing exactly how this thing would work out in practice. I did not want to be for it or against it until I knew exactly how it would work out. They told me that if the appropriation were not large enough to cover this whole wide field, then this consulting committee provided for would decide which items would be given attention.

The consulting committee might, for instance, decide to work just on transportation and ignore slaughtering altogether, so we have absolutely no guaranty that even if you pass 5820 that anything will be done about the slaughtering problem.

Is this compulsory bill by itself, without further study by the Department, fair to the packers, because we humanitarians want to be fair to the packers.

You have had plenty of testimony today, which I won't repeat, that we have good methods already in existence which will increase profits, but maybe we are wrong.

After all, there are only a few houses who have tried them. Maybe the experience of Hormel and the others will prove to be only exceptions. Maybe when more of the industry take up these methods, they will find that in their particular situations these new methods will actually increase their costs.

It could happen. Well, if it does happen, or if there is any possibility of its happening, then the only way we will ever get humane methods in the industry is for the entire industry to adopt the new methods simultaneously.

I could not blame any packer for not risking an increase in operational costs unless all of his competitors were facing the same risks. But if they all faced the same risks, then no one will profit at the expense of the others.

If such a Federal law is passed, I predict that the States will follow it in short order, for public opinion against wanton cruelty is overwhelming. There is hardly a hamlet in the length and breadth of the land that does not punish cruelties either by direct edict or by judicial decision, but so far commercial institutions have remained immune from these laws, on the argument that they could not survive against competitors in other States where restrictions were not imposed.

So you see, gentlemen, we need a Federal law and we need it desperately in order that local laws can be upheld and in order that competition will be fair for everyone in the entire industry.

Of course the switchover will mean plowing back a little of the profits to put in this new equipment. So what? Every other big industry seems to be constantly improving its method, its design, its equipment and putting up reserves or setting aside reserves for that purpose.

Only the meatpackers cling to prehistoric methods.

Aren't they about due for a little modernization?

And of course there will be technical problems.

Again I say, so what? Certainly engineers who broke the sound barrier can work the bugs out of a captive-bolt pistol. It may be indeed that these instruments you have seen today that seem so good at present will not stand up in operation, but if they do not, if there is a compulsory law saying that all meatpackers must use these methods, I will guarantee you or I will make a wager that some of the best engineers in this country will rush in to fill the gap with inventions that they may sell to industry which will perhaps be better than anything we have seen today because that is the American way.

May I read you a little quotation from a letter which the Department of Agriculture sent out last year?

Last year of course it was not for this bill because no one had offered them a big appropriation.

Now they have more appropriations so the story is different, or rather now that we are proposing a bigger appropriation the story is different.

But last year they said:

Progress can best be accomplished by private initiative and individual ingenuity in the traditional American manner.

Personally I think last year they were pretty right. So with everyone working under the same competitive system, competition is bound to find an equilibrium wherein each packer will get approximately the same profits which he is getting now.

It is only in the desultory one by one changeovers that real risks are taken or that some plants may be at a tremendous advantage while others are at a disadvantage. So with the risk cut to a minimum, why should industry resist compulsory simultaneous change?

The answer is obvious. Why should they bother to go through all of this retooling? Why should they bother to eliminate suffering if their profits are going to be just the same after they have done it all?

Why? Because I hope we are still a moral nation, because if we want to go on calling ourselves this Nation under God, we cannot allow any industrial plant, big or little, to profit from the sufferings of God's creatures.

Thank you.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you so much.

Mrs. HOLWAY. May I also file my statement and a little brochure of a letter sent from a United States Government inspector in a slaughterhouse to the National Humane Society, which I think will tell you what the Department of Agriculture could do even now without an appropriation if it had the will and the authority, neither of which I am afraid it has at the present time.

Mr. POAGE. Without objection.

(The documents referred to are as follows:)

STATEMENTS BY MRS. FRANCES A. HOLWAY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Gentlemen, I am a housewife, a mother, and a grandmother, and I believe I am representing thousands of other housewives, mothers, and grandmothers who want their children brought up in a moral world based on the laws of God.

God has always been an integral part in our national tradition. When our forefathers wrote the Declaration of Independence they spoke of nature's God and called upon the Supreme Judge of the world for authority to found a new nation. There were to be many freedoms; freedom of enterprise, freedom of religion, or freedom to engage in no enterprise or to practice no religion, but none of these freedoms were to be construed as license to commit immoral acts. This would be a country of law and order. The weak would be protected, the defenseless defended.

To be sure, most of the laws you enact nowadays are primarily regulations to improve the economy. Seldom do you now face an issue which involves a moral conflict with the law of God. So, naturally, you may get to thinking of yourselves more in the light of economists than keepers of the public morals. But keepers of the public morals you must be nevertheless when the occasion arises, and the occasion has now arisen.

Actually we have two distinct questions before us now and perhaps we have been making the mistake of confusing the two. The one is purely moral: In an ethical society does anyone have the right to inflict suffering on living flesh or make a profit thereby? The moral answer can only be "No," which means we must have a public law to prevent it.

The second question before us is economic: Assuming we have done the moral thing, assuming we have passed a compulsory bill, then how can we best help the packers in the practical problem of changing over to the prescribed methods?

As an adjunct to the compulsory bill, H. R. 5820 would no doubt be helpful, and I would never be against anything which would help an animal. Personally, I would not mind if you doubled my taxes if you could guarantee results after the

Department of Agriculture makes its studies. But all taxpayers do not share my sentiments and rumor has it that Congress is not now in a mood to make large appropriations. This is an omnibus bill, taking in every phase of the humane handling of meat animals, and to cover this field adequately would take an enormously large appropriation. What if Congress does not make an adequate appropriation?

I spent half of an afternoon at the Department of Agriculture discussing this problem with Dr. Clarkson and Dr. Miller for I could not tell whether I should favor the bill or not until I saw how they planned to implement it. They explained to me that if the appropriation should not be adequate to cover the whole range of subjects the advisory committee would decide which one or two projects would get attention. Therefore, it is entirely possible that all the time and money available may be spent on transportation or handling, and no attention at all given to the problem of slaughter.

Let us ask if a compulsory bill would be fair to the packers, for we humanitarians do want to be fair to them. We think—and quite honestly—that humane methods will decrease their costs. But maybe we are wrong. Maybe the experience of Hormel will prove to be an exception. Maybe when other plants adopt the various humane methods they will find that their costs rise or that there are technical problems we have not anticipated. If this is true, or if there is any possibility it might be true, then we cannot blame any producer for hesitating to take risks and make himself a guinea pig for the industry. Our only hope of achieving progress in that case would be a simultaneous changeover by the entire industry so that all would be taking the same risks and working out the problems together.

Of course the switchover will mean plowing back a little of the profit. So what? Every other big industry seems to be constantly improving its designs, methods, and equipment, and setting up reserves for that purpose. Only the meatpackers are clinging to prehistoric methods. Aren't they about due for a modernization?

And, of course, there will be technical problems. But again I say, so what? Certainly engineers who broke the sound barrier can work the bugs out of a captive-bolt pistol. In fact, once you pass the compulsory bill, once you establish a guaranteed market for humane equipment, I would be willing to wager that inventors will rush in to fill that market with equipment which may be superior to anything we have seen to date. And you won't have to give the Department of Agriculture a big slice of the taxpayer's money to do the developing. In fact, last year, before this idea of giving the Department an appropriation had been suggested, the Department said in a letter, "Progress * * * can best be accomplished by private initiative and individual ingenuity in the traditional American manner." I am still inclined to agree with the Department's attitude at that time.

I, under a compulsory bill, the entire industry changes simultaneously to humane methods, competition is bound to find an equilibrium wherein each packer will get approximately the same profits he is getting now. It is only in the desultory one-by-one changeovers in an experimental stage that real risks are taken, or that some plants may be at a tremendous advantage while others are at a disadvantage.

If we can pass a Federal law, then we may expect that local laws will be more effective. Public opinion against cruelty is overwhelming. There is hardly a hamlet in the length and breadth of the land which does not punish cruelty by edict or judicial decision. But so far commercial institutions have remained immune from these laws on the ground that they could not survive competition against competitors who were not so restricted. So you see, we need a Federal law, and we need it desperately, in order that local laws will be effective and in order that the entire industry will be on a fair competitive ground.

With competition and risks minimized, with every chance that the new methods will decrease costs instead of increasing them, with possible large savings in meat and better working conditions for employees, why should the industry object to a compulsory bill?

The answer is obvious. Simple inertia. Things may be better under a new system, but as long as profits are satisfactory now, why go through the bother of changing?

Why? For just one reason: Because if we are to go on calling ourselves "this Nation under God" we cannot allow any industrial plant, big or little, to profit from the sufferings of God's creatures.

I would like to insert into the record for your perusal a letter from a United States Government inspector in a slaughterhouse to the National Humane Society. It will give a very small glimpse of the very large overall problem, and it will also show that the Department of Agriculture could even now—without a further appropriation—stamp out some of the evil if it had the will and the authority.

A LETTER FROM A UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR IN A SLAUGHTERHOUSE
TO THE NATIONAL HUMANE SOCIETY (AND TO YOU)

This folder presents, without editing of any kind, a letter sent to the National Humane Society by an inspector of the Bureau of Meat Inspection, United States Department of Agriculture. Other Federal inspectors have told the NHS that the cruelties reported are not unusual. Primary purpose of this reprint is to inform local humane societies and law-enforcement officers about cruelties of this type and to help humane officers in their work.

The NATIONAL HUMANE SOCIETY,
733 15th Street NW., Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIRs: One of the most common practices of inhumane treatment to livestock in slaughterhouses is the use of the electric prod pole. (The electric prod pole is a wooden pole about 6 or 8 feet long and has the wires from an electric light socket attached to it and running along the side to the bottom end containing terminals that give the animal the full charge of electricity when touched to them.)

The cattle or calves are first washed with a cold water spray or water hose and then are driven into metal knocking boxes with this pole. Often when the prod is used, the cattle are shocked so badly they are not able to move and fall down, and more cattle are forced over them. On numerous occasions the cattle driver pushes the prod pole up the rectum of these unfortunate animals, and all they can do is bellow.

Another very bad feature or practice is that these knocking boxes were intended originally for 1 or 2 cattle at a time, but most of the time these drivers force 3 or 4 animals into this small compartment. Naturally, the first 1 or 2 in are forced to the floor and the others driven over them. When the prod pole is touched to one, naturally they are all shocked. On one occasion, the third beef jumped up and caught one front foot in the cable to the trap door. The knocker (the knocker is the man who uses the poleax) attempted to amputate the foot with a steel bar that was handy, but was stopped by an inspector at that establishment.

The excessive use of the prod pole is prevalent in all slaughterhouses that I have ever been in. Of course, some are much worse than others. Some drivers seem to get much satisfaction from hearing animals bellowing.

I believe that if an electric prod pole could be, and I believe it can be, regulated to giving a much lesser shock, and if used properly, it would save a lot of bruises on cattle, which is quite a loss to the meatpacker.

On another occasion, witnessed by one of my fellow workers, on driving some calves up the chute from the yard pens, a plant employee used a cane and deliberately put an eye out of a calf which turned back, by jabbing the cane into the eye. Another time this same driver had a large bull, which was quite lame in one hind leg. He put it in one of the holding pens and proceeded to use the electric prod pole on him unmercifully until the poor animal was wild with fright and pain and I protested and made him stop.

I have seen cattle which were knocked or stunned with the hammer and rolled out on the floor and hung up for bleeding after sticking, and the header started to skin out the head while the animal was still alive and was trying to bellow. I have stopped this many times.

When calves are slaughtered, they are driven into a small pen and stunned with a hammer. The calves are not completely stunned sometimes. They are shackled and pulled up to an overhead rail and bled. Sometimes the hind feet are skinned out and cut off while the animal is still alive, and they come out on the floor by a moving chain still kicking. Thank goodness this does not happen too often.

In the slaughter of sheep, the animals are not stunned but are shackled and pulled up to an overhead rail and are bled by sticking a knife through the

jugular vein and left hanging to bleed out. But there are times when they get in a hurry and also skin out the hind legs while the animal is still alive.

On this very day the cattle knocker went out to the yard pens to bring up some cattle and used a piece of water pipe, and was hitting right and left at the cattle and had knocked two of them down before he was stopped. He was given a buggy whip to use on them. He used it unmercifully.

On driving hogs up from the yard pens to the killing floor, the drivers are supposed to use a short-handled stick with a piece or strip or canvas or a piece of fire hose attached, but some drivers use a heavy cane and jab their rectums and twist it. We find many bruises on the inside of the hams from this practice.

Many times live hogs have been dropped into the scalding tanks. Sometimes this happens right after sticking, before they are dead, and I have seen live hogs that have not been stuck deliberately dropped into the scalding tub. Although we condemn any animal found scalded alive, the hog scalders or the fellow that drops them into the tub seems to get quite a kick from all the commotion caused when the live animal hits the scalding water. I have seen hogs that have been scalded and run through the dehairing machine still show signs of life.

We received a shipment of hogs that were very badly jabbed with some sharp instrument, which caused an awful lot of deep bruised parts which had to be trimmed off and condemned, causing quite a loss to the packer. On investigation by the company, it was found that where these hogs were loaded into the railroad car a stick with a sharp spike had been used to prod the animals. We have noted on different occasions that a pitchfork must have been used, as the stick wounds were the same distance apart on each hog. On another occasion a truckload of hogs was destined for a packer. The truck broke down and it took 2 days for repair. Then the driver continued on for another day without feeding or watering the animals. The inspector in charge from this station happened to be there when the hogs arrived, and he said it sure was a pitiful sight.

The handling of downers or cripples at the yards is very cruel. When an animal is down with a broken leg, a back injury, or any other cause, a rope with a slip knot is put around the neck. The animal is then dragged to the cripple cart, then dragged onto the killing floor by several workmen, and then knocked or stunned.

I am not sure if this practice is still going on yet, but we were receiving a carload of horses every week from Canada for slaughter for fox feed. Wild horses and colts were put in the same railroad car, and the colts had their ears and tails chewed off and were badly battered up.

The slaughter of bulls could surely stand lots of improvement. The method of using the hammer to stun them is sickening. As they have a very thick skull and overhanging tufts of hair, they are very hard to stun. I have seen 15 to 20 blows struck on some animals.

The only remedy to the foregoing conditions will be for a humane officer to have free access to the yards and plant at any and all times without having to notify the company first.

The rendering plants could use more supervision, too. I have known of cases where they have bought horses for fox feed and left them tied out in the hot sun for 2 days without water or food before they got around to killing them.

Some of these stories may seem quite wild, but I can back them up and, if need be, I could prove most of them.

Mr. COOLEY. Have you visited the Hormel plant?

Mrs. HOLWAY. No, sir I have not.

Mr. COOLEY. Have you ever seen one of these plants in operation where they use the painless method of killing?

Mrs. HOLWAY. No, sir; I have not. I have been to the Swift plant in Chicago and that is all.

Mr. COOLEY. The Swift plant in Chicago?

Mrs. HOLWAY. Yes.

Mr. COOLEY. That is all.

Mrs. HOLWAY. But I am willing to admit that we may be wrong. Maybe we do not have the answers, but I think we will find them if we make it compulsory so that industry must find them.

Mr. COOLEY. You realize, I am sure, the magnitude of the problem under discussion, because you have slaughtering going on in just about every precinct and county in the whole country?

Mrs. HOLWAY. Yes, sir.

Mr. COOLEY. All slaughtering is not done in slaughterhouses?

Mrs. HOLWAY. Yes, sir.

Mr. COOLEY. Some of it I suppose is just about as painless and as humane as it can be done and in other places I know it is done very cruelly and brutally.

Mrs. HOLWAY. Yes, sir.

Mr. COOLEY. In dealing with the problem we shall have to regard it as on a nationwide basis and realize that you have slaughtering on many of the farms of the country.

Mrs. HOLWAY. That is just what I say, sir, exactly.

Local laws could take care of them if we had a national law. Without a national law they are immune under humane law because of competition. That is their excuse. They say to the local law "We cannot do it because we are competing with these big people."

Mr. COOLEY. You realize also that some of the big packers could probably very easily finance the cost of the modern equipment, whereas it might be difficult for some of the small packers to do so.

Mrs. HOLWAY. Mr. Cooley, this is the richest nation on earth. We are scattering our money like salt all over the globe. Cannot we give a little credit, at least \$5,000 worth of credit, to a small packer if he is indigent and needs it?

Mr. COOLEY. I guess we could do it but I don't know whether or not Congress would do it.

Mrs. HOLWAY. Well, you do many other worthy things and I think any banker would do it too.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you very much. We will now hear from Mr. La Roe, Jr., general counsel for the National Independent Meat Packers Association.

STATEMENT OF WILBUR LA ROE, JR., GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENT MEAT PACKERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. LA ROE, Jr. My name is Wilbur La Roe, Jr. I am general counsel for the National Independent Meat Packers Association. My address is 743 Investment Building, Washington 5, D. C. Our association represents the so-called independent and smaller meatpackers. The large national packers are not members of our association.

Our association favors anything that can be done within reason to make slaughter more humane. Contrary to the impression that has been given here, we are really working on this matter and encouraging our members to do everything they can to expedite humane slaughter. The factors which stand in the way of faster progress are very real. The most important factor is the fact that the so-called pistols are still in the development stage. I do not want to reflect on any of these pistols but I can say that one of the best-known companies in this country has been conducting experiments, with our cooperation, during the past year without wholly satisfactory results. As a matter of fact, we picked out three locations for them to conduct their experiments and we attended one of the experiments where a serious defect developed because a cartridge stuck in the pistol and there was

a great deal of difficulty in removing it. Later another defect resulted which we hope has been corrected, but we are not sure. We now understand that a foreign pistol is giving very satisfactory results, but it was introduced into this country since the last hearing in this matter before the Senate committee.

In order to continue to encourage this experimenting we have arranged for a demonstration of 4 types of instruments, including the pistols and the CO₂ anesthetizer, by 4 manufacturers of these instruments, at our annual meeting at Chicago which begins on May 11, only 1 month hence. The four companies will have their instruments there and will explain their use.

The question is naturally asked why is it that some packers can use the pistols successfully while others refuse to use them. I believe that one answer to this is that those who do use the pistol have some difficulty with it. We know of one case where a packer had to have several pistols on hand because one was almost continuously out of order, and recently he has switched over to another type which he hopes will be more successful.

There is no doubt in my mind that the pistols will be superior instruments and will result in a better type of slaughter if and when they are fully developed and our members have confidence in them. It is quite possible that one of the pistols now in use will justify itself, and may be doing so today in a few plants. However, gossip spreads rapidly in our industry and the word has passed all through the industry that 1 or 2 of the instruments have had real difficulty, so much so as to require a switch to some other type, and this naturally causes hesitation on the part of some members about radically changing their method of slaughter.

I must confess that it is difficult to get our members to turn to a new method of slaughter when the old method has been so successfully used for many years. I have watched the slaughter of cattle by the ordinary method and I do not know of anything that renders cattle insensible more quickly or more definitely than a blow on the head by a competent workman. Let me add here that the pistol can produce bad results if the man who uses it is not highly skilled. In fact, a slight turn of the animal's head at the wrong moment will cause a very bad result.

There is no doubt in the world that this matter should be pursued diligently and I have no explanation to give for those slaughterers who will not even try the pistol, except that their hesitation may be explained by the experimental nature of this method of slaughter.

The issue before this committee, as I see it, is whether this matter is to be handled through mandatory legislation or whether the Secretary of Agriculture is to be directed to get behind it and push it along. We prefer the latter method, not because we want slow speed, but because we think it unfair to impose penalties before the instruments and techniques have been fully developed.

I have been personally criticized for saying a year ago that if the Congress would give us 1 more year we would do something about this. We have done a lot during the past year. Much water has gone over the dam since the Senate hearing. What might emerge as a very successful instrument has been introduced since that time and a number of our members have successfully taken up the use of the pistol and are using it today, probably with good results.

The slaughter of hogs presents a far more difficult problem. Here the chief difficulty lies in the space that is required for the CO₂ gas chambers. Many small slaughters have such cramped facilities that it would almost bankrupt some of them to rebuild in order to meet this new requirement. We know what Hormel and Kingan have done and we have nothing but good words about it but we are told that it cost them a very large sum of money—far more money than our small members can afford to put up. However, I do not think that the question of money is so important as providing the necessary facilities, especially space, for the use of the CO₂ method. I heard only yesterday that one of the new pistols can be used for the slaughter of hogs as well as for the slaughter of cattle but I have never seen proof of this and I think it is worth investigating because one of the chief obstacles to the humane slaughter of hogs would be cleared away if the hogs could be slaughtered with a pistol, avoiding the extra space required for the CO₂ gas chambers.

Let me repeat that we favor pressure in this matter and we have no kind words for those who are unnecessarily dragging their feet, including some of our own members. All we ask is that a proper foundation be laid before mandatory legislation is adopted. We know Congress well enough to believe that Congress will want to see that the foundation is properly laid. This can be done without stopping the pressure for speed in the direction of humane slaughter and we believe that this pressure could serve the public interest so long as it does not result in hasty action without first laying a right foundation.

For the above reasons we favor the legislation which is sponsored by the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. POAGE. Now we have some 5 or 6 more witnesses.

I think that all the witnesses except Mr. Gill and Mrs. Draper are in opposition?

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. Chairman, the Farmers Union is in favor.

Mr. POAGE. All right, Mr. Johnson, we will be glad to hear you at this moment if you care to.

My purpose is that when we have completed those who are in favor of the bill, then we will hear the opposition.

STATEMENT OF REUBEN JOHNSON, ASSISTANT COORDINATOR OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICE, NATIONAL FARMERS UNION

Mr. JOHNSON. For the record, Mr. Chairman, I am Reuben Johnson assistant coordinator of legislative services, National Farmers Union. I have a very brief statement and with your permission I would like to present it to you.

Mr. POAGE. Yes, sir.

Mr. JOHNSON. Slaughtering methods of the livestock and poultry industries have long been criticized by many individuals and organizations who feel that more modern and more humane practices should be used.

In the changeover from long-used methods of slaughtering to presently tried, proven, and more humane processes, the United States has fallen behind the progress made by other nations of the world.

In Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and England, for example, almost all bleeding and slaughtering of livestock is accomplished only after the animal has been quickly and completely rendered insensible.

A law in Switzerland requires an animal to be insensible before bleeding and slaughtering operations are carried on. Brutal "slip of the battleax" results have been eliminated.

It is understood in this connection that the Hormel Co. uses a carbon dioxide gas method which renders the animals unconscious before bleeding and slaughtering.

This is perhaps one of the best and most humane methods used. However, it is more expensive than the other stunning techniques in its initial cost.

In other countries, and to some degree in the United States, the captive-bolt device is used very effectively.

National Farmers Union urges that inhumane methods of stunning animals before slaughter be abolished by the approval of this committee and ultimate approval by Congress of legislation which would require mandatory humane slaughter methods relating to meats destined for interstate commerce.

The legislation such as we have in mind would leave to local authorities any regulations of nonfarm slaughter and slaughtering for intrastate shipments.

Enactment of such legislation would not affect the income of farmers since the cost of putting into practice the more modern methods of slaughtering would be a very minor one and could easily be paid from the oversized profits of commercial meatpackers.

At least one of the meatpackers, as I have already mentioned, has seen fit to do so. It should not be overlooked in this hearing that hearings were held last year in the Senate, and the record for legislation such as that which you are considering was made in that body.

It is clear to me also, Mr. Chairman, that the record is being made here today before this committee for early favorable action on mandatory humane slaughter legislation.

We appreciate, Mr. Chairman, the opportunity to appear before the committee and submit our views on this important legislation.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you very much, Mr. Johnson.

We are very much obliged to you.

I keep getting myself confused. Let us make sure that I have not overlooked somebody else.

I have listed here representatives of the National Meat Processors Association.

Do we have a representative of the Meat Processors present?

Do we have a representative of the American Federation of Retail Kosher Butchers?

Mr. GREENWALD. Yes, Mr. Chairman, in opposition.

Mr. POAGE. I am sure we have a representative of the American Meat Institute here, and you are in opposition to the bill.

There is no one representing the American Farm Bureau Federation, but they have asked to have a letter inserted in the record expressing their general opposition, and without objection I will insert that letter in the record.

(The letter is as follows:)

AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION,
Washington, D. C. April 1, 1957.

HON. W. R. POAGE,
*Chairman, Livestock and Feed Grain Subcommittee,
House Agriculture Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN POAGE: On behalf of the American Farm Bureau Federation we would like to express our views with regard to bills requiring the compulsory application of so-called humane methods in the slaughter of livestock and poultry. Naturally, as a representative of livestock producers, we have a tremendous interest in this matter.

With the membership in Farm Bureau at about 1,600,000, I would judge that a very large majority of this membership is actively engaged in producing, feeding, and marketing livestock, dairy, and poultry. From a completely practical point of view we believe the humane handling of livestock and poultry at all levels is perhaps of greater interest and concern to us than to any other group. Farmers and ranchers usually give the utmost care to their livestock.

In considering this legislation it is necessary for us to view compulsory legislation in this field in light of its possible economic impact on livestock producers. It seems to us that the meatpackers, the humanitarians, the scientists, and others cannot yet agree on the most practical or even the most humane method for slaughtering livestock. In light of the controversy around this issue it seems to us that compulsory legislation at this time would be very premature and not in the best interest of either the producers of livestock or the consumer.

We would recommend that an advisory group under the direction of the Secretary of Agriculture be established to give concerted study to this problem. It is our belief that a great deal more could be achieved toward a solution to this problem on a voluntary basis than if compulsory legislation is passed. The success of any program of this kind is largely dependent on the willingness of those dealing with the matter to cooperate.

In other words, we strongly believe that the greatest progress toward the solution of this problem will come about through the development of voluntary programs, based on factual information made possible through cooperative efforts of all segments of the livestock, poultry, and meat industry and those interested in the humane handling of livestock and poultry at all levels of production and processing.

We respectfully request that this letter be made a part of the record of hearings.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN C. LYNN, *Legislative Director.*

MR. POAGE. That brings us to Mrs. Draper, who has a short film to show, and I think that this would be an opportune time to see that picture, and then we will proceed with those who are in opposition to this.

Would you let the audience come up to these chairs so they will be close to the screening.

(Presentation of film was made at this time.)

MR. POAGE. Thank you very much for that picture.

We will now hear the opponents of the legislation.

I believe Mr. Regensburger is going to represent the American Meat Institute.

STATEMENT OF R. W. REGENSBURGER, OF SWIFT & CO., APPEARING FOR THE AMERICAN MEAT INSTITUTE; ACCOMPANIED BY ALEC P. DAVIES

MR. REGENSBURGER. My name is R. W. Regensburger. I am vice president of Swift & Co., but I appear here representing the American Meat Institute, the trade, research and educational association of the meatpacking industry.

The American Meat Institute, now 50 years old, represents several hundred members, both large and small companies, in every State of the Union, which process somewhere in the neighborhood of 80 per cent of the commercial meat consumed in the United States.

I have been a member of the special committee on improved methods of slaughter of the American Meat Institute for a number of years, and for a period served as chairman.

The American Meat Institute has constantly favored and sponsored efforts which would secure humane treatment of all livestock under all conditions from farm to packing plants.

Over the years the American Meat Institute has been active in efforts to improve the handling of food animals. Many years ago, the institute joined the farm and livestock organizations, humane associations, railroads, truckers, stockyards interests, agricultural colleges and the United States Department of Agriculture in the formation of the National Livestock Loss Prevention Board, the name of which was changed to Livestock Conservation, Inc., a few years ago.

This organization, national in scope, financed by all segments of the industry from farm to packinghouse, is dedicated to educational and promotional efforts to reduce losses through better and more humane handling of animals.

We mention this merely to indicate the voluntary activity and interest of the American Meat Institute in all phases of humane treatment of livestock.

The American meatpacking industry is the world's greatest food manufacturing group. From 5½ million farms and ranches in every State in the Nation come live animals to the packing plants.

In 1956, the livestock processed at all meatpacking plants or establishments or on farms in the United States numbered about 27 million cattle; 12 million calves; 16 million sheep and 79 million hogs—making a total for all livestock processed of 134 million head.

Thus, we are not discussing here a subject of small import but rather legislation that will affect directly or indirectly millions of people, producers, processors and consumers. Our basic function in this industry is to process, distribute, and offer for sale edible meat that is clean, wholesome and appetizing. To do this we dispatch millions of animals each year, and in this task we bear responsibility to handle these animals humanely and efficiently.

The number of livestock dispatched annually in this country is, therefore, very large—far greater than in European countries with which comparisons are drawn with respect to humane methods of slaughter.

Under the conditions of corporations in the United States, the development and application of new methods of slaughter present more difficult problems than under European practice for two reasons:

1. High speed of operations in this country;
2. The more excited and fractious characteristics of livestock in our country.

As the number of animals dispatched in United States plants is very large, livestock must be processed at high hourly rates of speed.

For example, in the larger plants in this country—

(a) Hogs are handled at a rate of 600 head an hour (and a few plants operate at 1,000 to 1,200 hogs an hour).

(b) Cattle are dispatched at rates of 150 to 200 head an hour.

In the largest European plants to our knowledge, however—

(a) The highest rate on hogs is around 300 head an hour, or about one-third the rate in this country;

(b) While on cattle, the highest rate in Europe is 40 to 50 head an hour, or about one-fourth the rate in this country.

The higher hourly rates of dispatching livestock in this country presents more serious problems and difficulties in applying new methods than would obtain in European practice.

Further, the livestock reaching packing plants in the United States are not docile, and are not accustomed to people in close proximity. Our livestock are more accustomed to the open spaces, and, as a consequence, are not tame and tractable as a whole when brought to the packing plants.

In Europe, on the other hand, the livestock generally are more mild mannered and quiet as they are more accustomed to people.

In developing and applying new methods, therefore, the control of fractious and excited livestock in this country is a serious and difficult problem when coupled with the requirement of operation at high hourly rates.

The meatpacking industry is not opposed to improvements in methods of dispatching livestock which may be judged more humane.

While the meatpacking industry is highly competitive and while costs are a serious consideration, the members of the American Meat Institute recognize an obligation to improve the operating technique in handling livestock which will meet rational criteria for more humane slaughter.

In the presentation which follows, I should like to discuss two points:

1. The development of new and improved methods of dispatching livestock under the conditions of operation in this country is not as easy and simple as would appear from superficial observation and study, and investigations are required for important facets of the development which may not even be foreseen or anticipated.

2. The position of the members of the American Meat Institute with respect to legislation under the category of more humane methods of slaughter.

With respect to the first point mentioned, I should like to review two experiences of the American Meat Institute Committee which demonstrate that endeavors to improve methods of dispatching livestock have unavoidably entailed study, investigation, and research far beyond that which would have been expected at the outset of the project.

First, our efforts to apply electrical stunning to livestock in this country.

Second, the current problems in the progress of the improved stunning instrument developed by the Remington Arms Co.

While we are not familiar with the details, we are certain that the development of the immobilizer for hogs by CO₂ entailed appreciable research and investigation by Horman & Co.

ELECTRICAL STUNNING

In 1929 word was received of the successful application of electric current for stunning hogs in Germany. From the reports received, the adaptation of this method in this country should have been relatively easy—seemingly, merely devising mechanical means for meeting operating conditions in the United States.

However, before we completed this project, extensive research, study, and investigation were carried out in several subjects and facets which no one could have foreseen or anticipated.

I should like to review briefly some of the more important studies and investigations to illustrate the complexities of this problem which appeared relatively simple when we started.

1. The reports from Germany indicated that the current should be applied by placing one pole on the head and the other on the rump.

Our experiments with this method of current application soon revealed a serious shattering of the backbone and a breaking of the thigh bones in a high percentage of the hogs stunned.

Investigation was necessary, therefore, to determine an application of current which would obviate the damage to the backbone. Research demonstrated that application of the current by placing the poles on either side of the head would avoid the damage to the bones.

The answer to the problem was found, but research and study were necessary for a condition which was not foreseen.

2. During the course of our early activity in the application of electric current for stunning livestock we invited several scientists to view our tests. To our surprise, several of the scientists who observed our experiments expressed serious concern as to whether the effect on the hogs was that of true unconsciousness or a paralysis simulating unconsciousness in which the senses registering pain were still active.

Obviously, there would have been no point in proceeding with the project if true unconsciousness was not produced by the current. To clarify this point, Dr. Ivy was retained by the industry to investigate this subject. Dr. Ivy at that time was professor of physiology in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology of the Northwestern Medical School. After extensive research, Dr. Ivy expressed the conclusion that true unconsciousness was effected by the application of electric current. The conclusion of Dr. Ivy was concurred in by several other scientists of national and international reputation.

Here again is an example of study and investigation of a phase of the subject which was not anticipated.

3. As we proceeded with the development of the project we then encountered other serious unfavorable effects caused by the current.

On cattle, the electric current caused a disfiguration of the most desirable and expensive cuts of beef, that is, the beef roast and steak. In appearance the meat revealed a myriad of small red dots indicating a bursting of minor blood vessels. This appearance resulted in a depreciation of sales appeal and value which would entail a serious economic loss to the entire cattle industry.

On hogs, the stunning with electric current produced tiny hemorrhages or blood markings on the lungs. These lesions introduced confusion for the Federal Meat Inspection Service in the post-mortem inspection, as the markings caused by electrical stunning were

indistinguishable from those present in the early stages of certain hog diseases. As a consequence, if hogs were stunned with electric current, a certain percentage of carcasses would, of necessity, be condemned on suspicion which would otherwise yield sound and wholesome product.

Supplementing the endeavors of the committee, the industry retained Dr. J. P. Simonds, professor of pathology at Northwestern University, to study the entire problem. After several years in this effort, Dr. Simonds was forced to the conclusion that no current was found that would not produce the hemorrhages or markings on the lungs. Further, the studies of Dr. Simonds did not reveal any distinguishable characteristic between the markings caused by electric current and those due to incipient stages of disease which would meet the requirements of the Federal Meat Inspection Service.

The need for the research project assigned to Dr. Simonds was not anticipated or foreseen when we embarked on the seemingly simple task of adopting electrical stunning of livestock to operations in this country.

As will be observed from the foregoing review, the project required extensive research and investigation before the conclusion was reached.

NEW STUNNING INSTRUMENT

The progress of the new stunning instrument proposed by Mr. John MacFarlane of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and developed by the Remington Arms Co. in cooperation with the joint committee comprised of representatives of the American Meat Institute and of the American Humane Association illustrates again the complexities and difficulties inherent in a problem which seemingly should have been easy and relatively simple considering the talent, ability and long experience of the concern in firearms.

The instrument has been in development over a period of almost 2 years and, while we believe we see the prospect of a successful conclusion, we would not be surprised if unexpected difficulties should still arise.

While the basic design and subsequent improvements in the firearm proper have been the result of the application of the talent and experience of the Remington organization, there have been some elements in the instrument which have been altered as a result of extensive test and usage in the field.

I should like to point out a few of these features to illustrate the need for research and investigation in the development of this instrument.

1. In some of the earlier models the mushroom-shaped head failed after a short period of use. To overcome this defect, study and research of the design best suited to withstand this service was necessary.

2. Within recent months the bracket fastening the stunning element to the handle has broken frequently.

Study and investigation of metal characteristics and design of the bracket have been necessary, but the final solution has not been found to date.

3. Currently, we are encountering damage to the bolt when the instrument on rebound strikes the metal side of the knocking stall when the stunning blow must be applied in an awkward position.

Study is underway to redesign the ball on the bolt to protect it under all conditions of service.

4. Experiments are still being conducted to determine the most suitable diameter and contour of the mushroom-shaped head for most effective stunning of all types of cattle.

I might enumerate many other problems and difficulties which required study and investigation in the development of the new stunning instrument; but believe the foregoing will illustrate the complexities in devising new equipment despite the diligence and zealous efforts of the Remington Arms Co. with long experience and background in firearms.

Remington Arms Co. informs us that currently the new stunning instrument has been placed in 35 plants. Further, the manufacturer has orders on hand for an additional 100 units which will be delivered as soon as they are available.

From reports received by the American Meat Institute some problems and difficulties have been encountered in the application of the new instrument at several plants, some of which have received their equipment within the past month or two. From the experience of Swift & Co. the period of introduction, which runs for several weeks, may in normal course be trying and discouraging. The use and care of the new stunning instrument is not as elemental and simple as the hammer; hence, the personnel at the plant must learn by experience the characteristics of the instrument, the most effective method of use and the care and maintenance of the equipment.

From our experience in Swift & Co. we are greatly encouraged in the performance of the new stunning instrument.

We have 4 plants at which the Remington equipment has been in regular daily use for from 3 to 8 months. During the period of use these 4 plants have stunned with the new instrument 201,000 cattle.

At 6 other plants the Remington unit has been in regular daily use from 1 to 3 months. During this period these 6 plants have stunned with the new instrument 108,000 cattle, making a total of 309,000 cattle, dispatched by the new stunning instrument at Swift & Co. plants.

While our results have been very promising and encouraging, I do not wish to leave the impression that the instrument is finished in design or function. We still have problems calling for solution and a need for further investigation and research.

In summary, the development of the new stunning instrument has required appreciable research and investigation, and more remains to be done to obviate some present deficiencies. This program again illustrates the research and study necessary for what appeared to be a relatively simple application of the knowledge and talents of a manufacturer of firearms with many years of experience.

IMMOBILIZING HOGS WITH CO₂

Along with progress in the application of the new stunning instrument for cattle, some concerns in the industry, following the lead of Hormel & Co., are proceeding cautiously to investigate the use of

CO₂ for immobilizing hogs. During the past year two installations were made, one for Hormel and one for another company. Serious consideration is being given by other concerns of seven additional units during the year, according to advice received from a representative of Hormel & Co.

While facilities developed by Hormel are available on the market, there are some companies which believe further investigation is desirable in view of the costs. The cost of installing facilities of immobilizing hogs with CO₂ may very greatly depending upon whether—

(a) The installation is to be made in a new plant or in one in which major rehabilitation is dictated for other reasons; or

(b) The installation is to be made in a plant at which no rehabilitation is proposed or required.

In an installation in a new plant or in one in which major rehabilitation is to be undertaken, the layout and arrangement in the killing department can be designed to accommodate the facilities for immobilizing hogs with CO₂ with minimum expense. The portion of the total cost of the project ascribed to the CO₂ equipment is relatively small above the cost of the immobilizer and the bleeding conveyor.

On the other hand, if the installation is to be made in a plant at which no rehabilitation is required, then the total cost of all building alterations and rearrangements must be ascribed entirely to the installation of facilities for immobilizing hogs with CO₂. Hence, depending upon the circumstances, the cost of installing such facilities may vary greatly as between plants.

Facilities for immobilizing hogs with CO₂ designed and in use in Europe are available for service in this country. The cost is less than for equipment fabricated in the United States which is based upon the Hormel design. There are, however, several important features of the European equipment which must be resolved and evaluated for service under the conditions of operation in this country.

Following are a few of the more significant elements requiring further analysis:

1. The European equipment is limited to hourly rates of kill up to about 300 hogs an hour. Hence it would have no application for the high-speed equipment at very many United States plants which operate above this level.

2. The facilities from Europe will only accommodate hogs weighing up to 275 pounds. All animals above this weight must be graded out and immobilized on separate facilities. This limitation in the European equipment may present no problems for their operations, but it would entail not only added expense for plants in this country but also serious confusion in maintaining records on each lot of hogs. In normal operation hogs are purchased by lots which may include both heavy and lightweight animals. The hogs in each lot must be processed as a unit to obviate discrepancies and errors. Hence the grading out and separate immobilization of hogs above 275 pounds would result in serious complications in maintaining accurate records.

3. The equipment developed in Europe is serviceable with the tame and docile animals received in their plants. There is grave doubt, however, that the European equipment as presently designed would withstand the stress and strain of the fractious and far from tame hogs which are characteristic in this country.

As indicated in the foregoing, there are several features of design and construction of the European equipment which will require further research, investigation, and possibly field testing before the true cost of these facilities suitably designed for service in this country are known.

In addition to the element of cost of the European equipment, there may be some advantage to it in installation expense. The European equipment is oval in shape in contrast with the straightline design of the Hormel equipment. The oval feature may afford some advantages in installation cost as the straightaway length is appreciably less than with the Hormel design.

If investigation and analysis discloses advantages in cost of installation in the oval design, conceivably this feature might be incorporated in equipment for higher rates of kill by further research and study. Hence, there are several significant features in the European equipment for immobilizing hogs with CO_2 which call for considerable research, investigation, and analysis before the true total cost and applicability of these facilities can be determined.

NEED FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

While progress has been made in the development of the new stunning instrument for use on cattle and in additional installations of facilities for immobilizing hogs with carbon dioxide gas, there remain several serious and complex problems in the field of improved methods of slaughter which will be considered more humane. A few of these projects are mentioned below:

1. While the performance of the new stunning instrument is encouraging and very promising, several improvements and refinements in design are indicated.

2. Means and methods must be evaluated as to cost for stunning sheep and lambs and calves.

We believe the new stunning instrument may be adapted to this service, but further research and study are required. The use of CO_2 is also a possible method which may be applied.

3. Study, analysis, and, possibly, some field testing will be required before a true evaluation can be secured of the lowest costing equipment for immobilizing hogs with CO_2 , taking into account initial investment and operating costs of different designs of equipment.

POSITION OF AMERICAN MEAT INSTITUTE—LEGISLATION RELATING TO HUMANE SLAUGHTER

Legislation which requires the application within 2 years of humane methods of slaughter to be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture as provided in House bills 176, 2800, 3029, 5671, will not provide the solutions to the problems inherent in this project. Nor will such legislation supply a substitute for the study, investigation, and research which will be necessary.

While we are opposed to legislation which arbitrarily imposes a dateline for the application of what are termed humane methods of slaughter without regard for delaying problems or complexities which may be encountered, we do favor the approach inherent in H. R. 5820, as proposed by Representative W. J. B. Dorn.

As we have pointed out, the development and the refinement of improved methods of slaughter require research, investigation, and study. These are no shortcuts to a satisfactory and complete conclusion.

In view of our experience in developing new instruments and methods in the slaughter of livestock, we favor the principle in H. R. 5820, as it provides a sound and practical approach to the remaining problems in our search for more humane methods of slaughter.

Mr. POAGE. We want to thank you very much for that statement.

I want to express the appreciation of the subcommittee that visited your plant in Kansas City last summer. We were very graciously received, and we were given an opportunity to see everything we asked to see. We could not have sought more gracious or cordial welcome, or a more cooperative attitude, and we do appreciate very much the attitude of Swift & Co. in this matter.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. Thank you, Mr. Poage.

Mr. COOLEY. You say that—

Many years ago, the institute joined the farm and livestock organizations, humane associations, railroads, truckers, stockyards interests, agricultural colleges and the United States Department of Agriculture in the formation of the National Livestock Loss Prevention Board—

which is now known as the Livestock Conservation, Inc.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. That is correct.

Mr. COOLEY. Now, was that many years ago?

Mr. REGENSBURGER. That is right.

Mr. COOLEY. Now, will you tell this committee what that organization has accomplished in the many years you have been in operation?

Mr. REGENSBURGER. May I turn that question over to Mr. Davies, because I am not familiar—

Mr. COOLEY. Yes. What has the corporation accomplished to make more humane the handling of livestock from the farm to the slaughterhouse?

Mr. DAVIES. Well, Congressman Cooley, this organization has, I think, had a great deal to do with the cutting down of the bruising of animals by loading methods, new and improved methods of loading, handling of animals, watering and all these other things.

Now, I am not an expert in this field, but I understand the president of this organization, the director of livestock of the American Farm Bureau Federation, is planning on submitting a statement to this committee on what they have done and what they are doing. Because as you know, the Dorn bill covers more than just the slaughtering of animals. It also goes into the question of whether we can find better ways of handling these animals all the way from the farm through the slaughter.

Mr. COOLEY. Aren't hogs loaded and transported now like they were 10 years ago?

Mr. DAVIES. No. There has been a vast improvement.

Mr. COOLEY. Well you put them on a truck and haul them.

Dr. DAVIES. But the designs of the trucks, Congressman, have been improved.

Mr. COOLEY. Well, was it improved as a result of the efforts of this concern?

Mr. DAVIES. Indeed it was, in cooperation with the truckers, with the people who design the trucks.

Mr. COOLEY. You give them water in transit. Hasn't that always been required by law?

Mr. DAVIES. Some has been required by law.

Mr. COOLEY. It is required by Federal law, isn't it?

Mr. DAVIES. I know it; and we have been working with the Federal Government on it.

Mr. COOLEY. Well, there is a man shaking his head back there. You mean there is no Federal law that requires you to give hogs feed and water in transit?

Mr. DAVIES. Certainly there is. On rails—on rails; yes.

Mr. COOLEY. I said on railroads.

Mr. DAVIES. Sure.

Mr. COOLEY. Of course, you cannot control the truckers, but at the same time you could prosecute a trucker in the jurisdiction of America if you found him hauling hogs without feed and without water for a long time.

Mr. HARVEY. Will the gentleman yield just at that point and permit me to make the observation that very few hogs are in truck transit for 24 hours.

Mr. DAVIES. That is right.

Mr. HARVEY. Hogs are short haul.

Mr. COOLEY. All right; transported by rail; you have to have feeding stations for them?

Mr. DAVIES. Yes; but Congressman, you know I am sure that there is a lesser and lesser amount of livestock being transported by rail today.

Mr. COOLEY. Less and less?

Mr. DAVIES. That is true; and more and more by truck.

Now, I know that the Livestock Conservation, Inc., is an educational association, nonprofit, and we all support it; and one of the things that we have been trying to do through education of truckers is to educate, often, the farmers in handling their animals.

Mr. COOLEY. In other words, you are all relying on education and research, and you have been researching and educating for all of these years and you are using exactly the same methods, or substantially the same methods now, as you used 40 years ago?

Mr. DAVIES. No, sir; we are not using the same methods.

Mr. COOLEY. While your company cites Hormel, for what their company has done, yet you sit and argue that you should not be required to do the same thing Hormel has done and done successfully.

Mr. DAVIES. That, my dear Congressman, has nothing to do with Livestock Conservation. They are not in the slaughtering of animals; they are in the handling of animals.

Mr. COOLEY. You say you are interested in them all the way from the farm to the slaughterhouse?

Mr. DAVIES. That is right.

Mr. COOLEY. You talk about these stunning methods and bolt pistols and firearm equipment. It looks to me as though you end up your statement with just a bit of suggestion to "leave us alone and we will keep researching and we will keep investigating, keep studying, keep on doing the same thing."

Mr. DAVIES. No, sir; I do not think our statement says that at all.

Mr. COOLEY. That is the way I interpret it. You do not lay out a program, you do not say "We intend to do this."

Mr. DAVIES. I think Mr. Regensburger, in his statement, pointed out very carefully, it seems to me, that when you start on some of these projects it turns out you have complexities develop in the problem.

Mr. COOLEY. Certainly you will, and you will always have them. But Hormel has remedied some of it.

Mr. DAVIES. Some of it; yes.

Mr. COOLEY. I saw their plant operate, and I cannot imagine a more humane way of slaughtering hogs than the way they do it. You saw that picture a minute ago, and I do not know whether or not that came from Swift's plant, but you do it exactly the same way in Swift's plant, don't you?

Mr. DAVIES. In fact, may I ask this question: I would like to know was that a Federal-inspected plant?

Mr. COOLEY. Hormel's?

Mr. DAVIES. No; the one the picture was taken in. I would like to know what plant was taken—

Mr. COOLEY. I cannot vouch for that. However, the point I am trying to leave with you is that this committee has received thousands and thousands of communications from people all over this country, and the people are disturbed about this inhumane way these dumb animals are treated. When you see a heavy steer swung up by his heels, and a heavy hog strung up, as these were a moment ago, I do not say that you can do it overnight, but I say you can improve it.

Now, I have seen them hit the cattle on the head with these balls, and I have not seen anything that I would consider cruel, because the ones I saw hit went down immediately.

Mr. DAVIES. That is right.

Mr. COOLEY. We are told in the picture we have seen about hogs swimming around in scalding water, still alive, calves still alive, while their heads were being skinned.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. May I comment on that?

Any hog that gets to the scalding tub alive is purely an accident. Because any hog which reaches the scalding tub and dies in the scalding tub is condemned as an inedible product.

Mr. COOLEY. As an inedible product?

Mr. REGENSBURGER. It is condemned for edible use.

Mr. COOLEY. Yes.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. And that is a total loss to the plant.

Now, if very much of that occurs, economic reasons, in addition to those of humane consideration, would put a stop to that very quickly.

Mr. COOLEY. They told us they had already paid for the equipment many times in saving and improving the quality of the meat. Now, I realize that you could not put in a Hormel outfit to take care of all the cattle that goes to the market overnight, but this business of developing a ball on the bolt, or whatever it is, it seems to me Remington Arms or somebody should be able to develop something that would be a little more humane than the method now being used, which would satisfy these people who are greatly disturbed over this thing.

I know that this committee is not as much disturbed as a lot of these humane-society people are, but if there is any way to improve

it, it certainly is a challenge to you people in the slaughterhouse business to do it.

Mr. DAVIES. And we are accepting the challenge, Mr. Congressman.

Now, one of the reasons there has been a debate on this question of the bolt pistol versus the mushroom-shaped head, is that we have a feeling we have a responsibility that we should not waste any product from that animal that comes out to us from the farm.

People say "Well, brains are not important." Well, I think you all were interested in passing Public Law 480, which is to increase our foreign sales. And the other day this country got an order for 2,000,240 pounds of brains for Spain. Now, if we had used a captive bolt pistol on those animals, there would be no brains to handle that order.

Mr. COOLEY. There is one other thing I want to point out. In this well-prepared statement you have presented here, you, in effect, say that America operates at such high speed, that we cannot afford to be humane.

Mr. DAVIES. No, we do not say that.

Mr. COOLEY. That is exactly what you said. You said because of the high speed of your operation, you could not do it in a humane fashion as it is done in Switzerland and Norway and other countries.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. I think what we said was that the application of improved methods, of different methods, is more difficult than it is in Europe.

Mr. COOLEY. Sure it is. But the fact of it is we are killing them too fast, and we do not have time to be humane.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. No; it takes a different device or a different arrangement, which entails more research and development.

Mr. COOLEY. I realize it is a problem of great value to you, and I have told everybody who talked with me about it, that I doubted very much if this committee would report a bill that I would accept. I say that frankly because I know that slaughtering is done under different circumstances in different places, on just about every farmstead in the country. There are all sorts of slaughtering. Slaughtering of wild animals, that is cruel, too. There is nothing humane about shooting a deer in the woods and letting him go around damaged or crippled the rest of his life, or shooting a duck out of the air. There is no society for the wild animals, but they are concentrating on these plants.

These humane-society people go there and take an interest in these animals, to see that something is done about it. I am prompted to say what I am saying because of the tremendous amount of interest that is demonstrated in this problem.

I do not think you gentlemen, by this statement, indicate that you are doing much to improve it.

Mr. DAVIES. Mr. Chairman, I would say to you that, not only have you received letters, but we have, too, and in concentrated form; and we take this matter very seriously. And one of the reasons that we urge a study by a competent commission is because I do not think that we are competent, and we do not believe the Secretary of Agriculture is competent to work this thing out. We need some further study.

Mr. COOLEY. Just let me say this: You say in the first statement that this newly formed organization has been in the business for

many years, and I asked you what you have accomplished, and you have not given us a very satisfactory answer.

Mr. DAVIES. I hoped that I had made that position clear. The Livestock Loss Prevention Board and Livestock Conservation, Inc., they are basic, of which the American Humane Society is a part, and we are a part, and the truckers are a part, the railroads are a part, the USDA is a part. Their main responsibility is to handle animals more efficiently and more humanely in the process of transit from the farm to the packing house and up to slaughter. They have nothing to do with slaughter.

Mr. COOLEY. Well, notwithstanding all that you have just said, the humane society that you referred to, the Humane Association, they are still insisting that the Congress of the United States do something about this problem.

Mr. DAVIES. I realize that.

Mr. COOLEY. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. May I amplify what I have said?

Mr. POAGE. Certainly.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. The cost of installing CO₂ facilities at our plants is appreciable. In moderate-size plants it runs as high as \$275,000. And in another plant we have an estimate of \$210,000. The depreciated value of the whole plant itself is only \$218,000, which gives you some indication of the cost.

Now, I was greatly disturbed by what Dr. Clarkson had to say this morning as to acceptance of the humaneness of some of the methods which are proposed. Now, our concern is that we may get in these installations and then have someone that is forceful and articulate arise and say, "We question whether this method is humane." And for that reason, we think that there should be research and investigation to establish beyond any doubt that the method is humane, just as we did with electrical stunning.

Mr. COOLEY. Well is anyone arguing that the Hormel method of killing hogs is not humane?

Mr. REGENSBURGER. Well, Dr. Clarkson raised some questions this morning. I do not know on what basis they are, but I was deeply concerned about what he had to say.

Mr. POAGE. Mr. Harvey.

Mr. HARVEY. I would just like to, I would not say challenge, certainly, I would like to have some reservations with regard to the statement on page 6, that page of your argument dealing with the stunning of hogs with electric current, in which you comment on the fact that killing by electrical current causes tiny hemorrhages or blood markings on the lungs, and say that it can cause the inspectors to confuse this result with other hog disease.

I have had a little experience in this field, and I know that the one thing you are looking for usually is hog cholera. Now, these small hemorrhages are called petechial hemorrhages, and in diagnosing a hog to determine whether it has had cholera or not, you do not rely entirely upon such markings on the lungs. In fact, my usual diagnosis is to examine the kidney tissue, and the petechial hemorrhage is usually considered, I believe, more an indication of the condition of the hog with regard to this particular disease.

I do not know that this observation I am making is so terribly important with regard to the overall question that we are considering,

but I am saying here that I do not believe that this argument, in my judgment, at least, is a very good one.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. Of course, as you understand, we are subject to the decision of the MID.

Mr. HARVEY. I understand. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you, Mr. Harvey. I believe before you came in that Colonel Anthony testified that all of the British veterinarians could distinguish between these markings and the disease markings.

Now, whether you accept his statement or whether you accept Mr. Regensburger's—I am certainly in no position to accept one as against the other, except to say that obviously there is a difference of opinion about the matter.

Mr. HARVEY. I had not intended to make this statement, but I do not have any hesitancy in doing so. When I wrote my bachelor's thesis, the thesis had to do with posting many hog carcasses, and a part of it was the study of the outward evidence of various kinds of diseases in relation to the organs. And I have been following up that work that I did for my bachelor's thesis. That is what leads me to this statement that I am making, that I do not think that this argument that is presented here is a very good argument. However, there may be other rather good arguments; they may have presented other very good arguments. I do not think this is a very good one.

Mr. REGENSBURGER. I would like to say that we were disappointed when the MID expressed its conclusion, because we had spent considerable time and effort and money in the actual and the practical application of equipment to handle the hogs at our Chicago plant, and we were in regular operation for a little over a week before we were stopped.

Mr. POAGE. Mr. Regensburger, could I ask: Isn't it true that in absence of any law on the subject, you readily question anything they tell you down here at the Department of Agriculture that you must do and you do not hesitate to contest it? That is the way most of us do.

I mean no criticism of you, but had you an investment that was involved in the Department's ruling which was going to actually impinge upon your prospective returns, I expect you would put up considerably more argument with the Department of Agriculture than you did, wouldn't you?

Mr. REGENSBURGER. Well, maybe we did, because I came down personally and talked to Dr. Moller, reviewed the whole subject with him.

Now, in addition to that, we spent money and retained Dr. Simonds to check our work to see whether there was a current which would obviate those problems—

Mr. POAGE. Yes, but I recall when you had some other problems down here, that you have come down and you have talked with Mr. Benson. I remember cases where your organization has come down here and talked to Mr. Benson. But that was when it was a matter of law and when it did involve a much more serious loss to you than the possible development of some—

Mr. REGENSBURGER. You may be right. And in those days we stopped when we got to Dr. Moller.

Mr. DAVIES. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make the point here that I read with interest Colonel Anthony's statement. It seems to

me that his quarrel, if any, is with the United States Department of Agriculture.

Mr. POAGE. I think yours is, too.

Mr. DAVIES. Well, we are operating—

Mr. POAGE. That is exactly the point I am trying to make. I think you are willing to quarrel with the Department if you have very much at stake, as you would have if we passed a bill; whereas, you, nor I, nor Mr. Harvey, or none of us, would be very much interested in going down there and carrying on a long protracted quarrel with the Department if we did not have very much at stake.

Isn't that exactly what has happened in this case?

I grant you that it seems clear that the Department has taken a position quite different from that of most of the rest of the scientists of the world, as far as I can find out, and I do not want to say the Department is wrong—sometimes the minority is right—but apparently the weight of judgment is against the Department right now on this particular item.

However, no one cares to make an issue about it because no one has anything much at stake on it.

Mr. DAVIES. Mr. Congressman, I think you and I have traveled somewhat around the world. I was born and brought up in England, in Wales, rather, and I have lived in America most of my adult life, as you know.

And I assure you there is quite a difference between the requirements of the Meat Inspection Service of the Department of Agriculture and some other services in the inspection of edible food products.

Mr. POAGE. Yes, and the point I am making, and you seem to miss my point—I probably do not make it clear—is that if this involved the actual sale of your commodities, you would not stop if you got an adverse opinion from Dr. Clarkson. You, Mr. Davies, would have been sitting right down here in the Willard Hotel for the last 3 months, and you would not have been talking to Dr. Clarkson, you would have been talking to Mr. Benson.

That is the only point I am making. And I do not condemn you for it, I think that is exactly what you ought to do, and I think it is what every other industry does. But I think it emphasizes the fact that we are never going to make progress very rapidly until some pressure is put on us, because you are not going to apply much pressure to the Department, and neither is anyone else. Why should they? Isn't that perfectly clear? Aren't you more concerned with getting what you conceive to be a proper ruling in regard to the Meat Inspection Act?

Aren't you really more concerned about that than you are about what the rule is about these instruments?

Mr. DAVIES. The only thing I know, and I was not here and I do not think you were, either, Congressman, but I know that the Meat Inspection Act, we thought, was going to be a great evil, and it turned out to be a great good for the meat industry.

If you will recall, you and I fought blood and sweat on this meat inspection thing in 1948, I believe.

Mr. POAGE. I remember.

Mr. DAVIES. One of the things, speaking for the trade association, I have been very careful not to do—and I have known several Secretaries of Agriculture besides Mr. Benson—is try and get involved in

changing anything affecting the wholesomeness of meat products because I do not think it is a function of ours to get involved in—at least mine.

Now, if the company wants to do it, that is all right, but I do not think I should go down there, and never have, and try to attempt to change the decision of these people, whose basic reason, passed by Congress, is to protect the wholesomeness of the meat eaten by the people of this country. So it is a very delicate problem when you start dealing with that one.

And I have never done it, and I do not intend to.

Mr. POAGE. Thank you very much, Mr. Regensburger and Mr. Davies.

Well now, we have a representative of the American Federation of Retail Kosher Butchers, Inc. Will you identify yourself, sir?

**STATEMENT OF DAVID H. GREENWALD, COUNSEL, AMERICAN
FEDERATION OF RETAIL KOSHER BUTCHERS, INC.**

Mr. GREENWALD. Yes, sir.

My name is David Greenwald. I appear here for the American Federation of Retail Kosher Butchers and the Association of Kosher Butchers primarily in the metropolitan area of New York City.

Mr. POAGE. You may be seated if you care to.

Mr. GREENWALD. Thank you, sir.

We have affiliations under the Retail Kosher Meat Industry Council with associations in the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Florida, and we are in contact with similar associations in Illinois, Ohio, California, Michigan, and other States where there are but a few kosher butchers.

We, of course, must stand on the premise that kosher slaughter is humane. By divine word in our Bible, there is strict instruction on the method of kosher slaughter.

I will point out, No. 1, of course, that the film you saw here does not apply to us at all, because also by divine word, we are obliged—practicing Jews and Orthodox Jews are obliged—to eat only that meat which comes from animals which (1) chew cud and (2) have a split hoof. Hogs, of course, are out of that classification.

I will not discuss the hog question at all. I will, of course, defer on the religious issues involved to the rabbis who were here and spoke with you today. I would like to point out some other technical defects in these proposed bills.

Gentlemen, at the moment, under your inspection service, inspection is mandatory in federally inspected slaughterhouses. A slaughterhouse comes under the purview of the law, depending on what happens to the meat after slaughter. In other words, a slaughterhouse in Illinois buying livestock in Omaha, and then shipping the meat out of the State of Illinois, comes under the Federal Inspection Service.

If the livestock were purchased in Omaha, slaughtered in Illinois and consumed entirely in Illinois, it is not a Federal question at the moment.

In all of the bills before you the definition has been completely changed. The test is, not now what happens to the meat after slaughter, the test in your bill is: Where does the livestock come

from? Every one of your bills has that same definition of a slaughterer, a person engaged in buying livestock across a State line. There has been a statement made here, unchallenged, that there are 500 slaughterers now under Federal inspection. I do not know how many thousands are under State law nonfederally inspected. By enactment of any of these pieces of legislation they all would come under the Department of Agriculture as far as the humane slaughter operations are concerned.

Now, there is a serious problem, I think, whether the Department of Agriculture could come in to supervise the humaneness of the slaughter without at the same time requiring the plant to have the type of facilities which are necessary in a federally inspected slaughterhouse.

Now, the small slaughterer who may kill 5 animals a week, or even 5 a day, may not have the requirements that they make mandatory. He may not have the tile walls or the separate clothing facilities, or the shower facilities, which they require under federally inspected slaughterhouses.

What this will do to the personnel of the Department of Agriculture, I do not know. If at present they supervise 500 plants, how many men will they require to supervise five or ten thousand plants? I do not know how many are now not federally inspected. That, I think, is something you should certainly consider when drafting any bill of this nature.

You proposed a question before, Mr. Chairman, as to the type of legislation which we Jews could endorse. Let me point out to you some of the dangers.

Last year one of the bills proposed that meat resulting from kosher slaughter should be limited only to the religious adherence of that faith, and Mr. McFarlane, who testified here for the proponents, again suggested that the meat from kosher slaughter be restricted to adherence of that faith.

As a practical proposition, meat that is kosher slaughtered, the entire carcass is not consumed by the Jewish people for the very reason that our Torah also provides that there must be some deveining before the meat is used. The forequarter of the animal has comparatively few veins; the hindquarter, comparatively, has a good many veins. For a practical proposition, to devein a hindquarter makes the meat eligible for hamburg, also. But by the same token for the nonkosher trained, the hindquarter of the meat is much more preferable.

Your better restaurants and hotels want the hindquarters only. The better steaks come from there, the sirloin and the rest of them. For that reason, if such a suggestion went into any of these bills, the entire hindquarter of the animal would become a sheer waste, being restricted to the Jewish trade, which could not consume it. And there starts this business of the hidden things in the bills which we are so much afraid of.

We are against any bills which will in any shape, manner, or form impede the sale and traffic of kosher meats across State lines. Therefore, we must oppose all the bills which today are before you and make for the compulsory slaughter by the humane methods.

Mr. POAGE. We thank you very much. I take it that your position, then, is simply that you would have to oppose any bill, first, which

required a Federal standard of slaughtering unless the end product was later going to be shipped across State lines?

Mr. GREENWALD. Yes, sir; we must oppose any bill which does not in its body recognize that kosher slaughter is humane. Not a bill which has two humanes and sets up kosher slaughter as approved. By implication there we are not humane and that we can never accept, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. POAGE. You now come to an entirely different point, because I do not think your other one is anything except a definition of what is interstate commerce.

Mr. GREENWALD. Yes, sir.

Mr. POAGE. It has nothing to do with whether it is kosher or whether it is nonkosher.

Mr. GREENWALD. That is the general observation.

Mr. POAGE. That is a general proposition. But the question now is whether, if you would oppose any bill which sets up standards other than kosher standards—then I do not see how it is possible to write a humane slaughter bill that would meet your requirements.

Mr. GREENWALD. I cannot speak for the gentlemen of the cloth, but it seems to me they cannot, and we cannot, accept a bill which will do less than recognize kosher slaughter as humane.

Mr. POAGE. Well, I am perfectly willing to agree with you on that, I am perfectly willing to recognize it as humane. I do not know of any objection to that, as a matter of fact, on the committee.

Mr. GREENWALD. Then, sir, conceding that, if you go further with all these bills, conceding that they will all be humane, further down in all these bills there is a prohibition against hoisting, shackling, or any other method of bringing the animal into position for slaughter.

Our faith requires that the animal be turned with its shoulder to the ground before the shohet can do the slaughtering. We know of no method that I know of—I am not a slaughterhouse operator—how you can possibly bring the animal down except by some mechanical means.

Mr. POAGE. If we cite in the bill humane slaughter as prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture, or humane slaughter as prescribed by the Jewish ritual, or humane slaughter as prescribed by the Mohammedan ritual, if we recite those things as being legal methods of slaughter and set yours out, as I am perfectly willing to do, as being a humane method, and frankly, from what I understand, with the use of that knife, that does result in the same sort of thing that we are trying to achieve here—if we set out that those are humane methods, do you have any objection?

Mr. GREENWALD. I personally, sir, would have none. But I would not be presumptuous enough to speak for the gentlemen—

Mr. POAGE. I understand that. Certainly, it is not the desire of this committee to pass anything that either prohibits the practice of any religious method of slaughtering, or to cast any aspersion upon any method prescribed by any religion, and I do not care whose it is.

Mr. GREENWALD. I should like to point out, sir, even if the bill were so drafted, the prohibitions contained in the succeeding paragraphs would prohibit kosher slaughter as presently written.

In any of these bills at random—

Mr. POAGE. Not if it were drafted so as to provide that your methods were one of those recognized as humane slaughter. It is certainly easy to draft—I am not saying that these bills are so drafted, I did not draft any of them, and I am not saying that they are so drafted—I am saying it is perfectly easy to draft a bill that recognizes the Jewish method as being one of the humane methods of slaughtering.

And I am perfectly willing, as far as I am concerned, to say that anybody's religious methods are humane, because I do not believe that any religion of the world sets up something that is brutal and inhumane.

I am perfectly willing to accept that. I am perfectly willing to write it in the bill in plain words, that it is one of the humane methods. I am not willing to write at as the only and exclusive method.

Mr. GREENWALD. Yes, sir.

Mr. POAGE. And you would not ask me to do that.

Mr. GREENWALD. No, sir.

Mr. POAGE. So I think that from that standpoint, and I recognize that you do not speak for the priesthood, but on the other hand, just as laymen, you and I can, I think, thoroughly agree.

Now, as to the legal standpoint, that hasn't any more to do with kosher meat than it has to do with anybody's meat.

Mr. GREENWALD. That would apply to all meat slaughterers.

Mr. POAGE. It would apply across the board?

Mr. GREENWALD. Yes, sir.

Mr. POAGE. And it is something that should be considered. I do not mean to pass it over lightly, but I do mean to say it has no particular reference to kosher meat.

Mr. GREENWALD. No, sir; it does not.

Mr. POAGE. Mr. Liljenquist, we are glad to have you, and we will be glad to hear from you.

STATEMENT OF L. BLAINE LILJENQUIST, WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVE, WESTERN STATES MEAT PACKERS ASSOCIATION, INC., WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. LILJENQUIST. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am sorry I was detained. I was appearing on a meat promotion bill this afternoon over in the Senate.

I do not have a prepared statement, Mr. Chairman, but I would like to comment briefly orally.

I am here representing the Western States Meat Packers Association, in which we have 264 member firms. We are located in the Rocky Mountain-Pacific Coast States. I am also a member of the board of directors of Livestock Conservation, Inc., but I am not representing that latter organization here as a witness.

We feel that this problem of humane slaughter is one of great importance, and we also believe that a great deal of good has already come about as a result of the introduction of bills in Congress to provide for humane slaughter legislation. Our whole industry has become interested in doing something about humane slaughter more rapidly than has been done in the past.

Now, our industry is one that has been operating a great many years. Some people think that progress in our industry comes slowly, but I want to say that we are keenly aware of our responsibility to

handle animals humanely, and as a public relations we are mighty interested in doing all we can to hasten the development of processes that will be an improvement over what we have had in the past.

So we think that the legislation that has been introduced last year, and again this year, has had a desirable influence on our industry in calling to the attention of our people the importance of concentrating attention on this problem.

Now, we are not ready to agree that research has gone far enough in this field where we could accept legislation which would make it compulsory that these proposed mechanical, electrical, and other so-called humane methods be made compulsory. Now, we believe that a great deal of progress is certainly going to come in the next few years.

Last year we suggested in the hearings in the Senate that a substantial research program be undertaken in the Department of Agriculture to develop these so-called humane research methods of slaughtering, which could be utilized in small packing plants. We must bear in mind that a lot of the small packers—and ours is a small packers association—do not have a large volume of slaughter in some species, or some of them in any species, for that matter. Some of our small slaughterers are just handling, maybe, 100 or 200 or 300 hogs a week.

And, if you impose legislation which, for instance, would make it mandatory to immobilize hogs with carbondioxide gas, the cost of the installation of such equipment may very well be beyond the financial reach of a small packer and, as a result, he would be forced out of slaughtering a particular species of livestock.

We have watched with interest the development of this Remington stunning instrument, and we have had it demonstrated at our last two conventions. We have also had it at some of our regional meetings, and we believe that it bears real promise. It is something that, it seems to me, meets a need, particularly in the slaughtering of cattle, and we believe it will not be too long before that gun is perfected to a point where it can be used economically and efficiently for that purpose.

We believe that it would be a mistake to pass legislation which would be compulsory in 2 years, or in 5 years for that matter. We want to work as rapidly as we can in this direction, and we would like to see some real support for a research program in the Department of Agriculture. We do not believe that compulsion is the American way to solve problems. Sometimes compulsion also prevents progress. We do not say that we are not at fault, over the years, in not doing more than we have, but we have a keen desire to do as much as we can, and now more than ever before in the history, I would say, in the history of our industry.

We hope that you would not adopt a bill which would have a compulsory feature, but we would support a bill that would bring about expanding research, both in industry and in the Government, to develop improved methods. And we, as an association, will do all we can in our segment of the industry to promote the utilization of these new methods as rapidly as they are proved feasible for adoption.

Thank you.

Mr. POAGE. Mr. Liljenquist, we appreciate your coming here. I do not want to impose a question upon you that probably should have gone to many others, but I just wonder what is the basic difference between applying humane methods in these packing plants and the

application of safety devices to the machinery that you use in those plants.

Every one of your plants is subject to safety laws, I am sure, and you have to close off dangerous machinery, you have to provide certain preventions for fire and explosion, and so on. No one knew for certain, when we established those regulations, just how that machinery was going to develop, and in some cases we unquestionably provided some requirements that have become burdensome over the years.

What is the basic difference?

We could apply the same line of thought to the shipping industry. We all know that railroads are required by law to use air brakes. You cannot run a railroad with the old hand brake deal that you used many years ago. Everybody knew you ought to have the air brakes, but everyone said, "There is some little fellow who cannot afford air brakes." However, they were required.

We require every ship that sails the seas under our flag to carry out a great many very expensive safety practices, more so than any other nation in the world. Probably we have required some things that were not too practical. We had not spent 29 years in research on it when we applied it.

What is the difference, basically?

Mr. LILJENQUIST. I would say the principal difference, Congressman Poage, is that in connection with your safety devices on machinery, you already have developed the safety measures which can be applied and they are practical, they have a purpose that is within the reach of those who are engaged in that business. And I think there is quite some difference to apply—

Mr. POAGE. Oh, that machinery is changing just as fast as any development in the slaughtering of animals. Of course, there has not been any drastic change in the slaughtering of animals since the war. But there have been changes in machinery regularly. It has changed from steam to electricity. We make those kinds of changes all the time, and the regulations that were applicable one year are not applicable the next. But we do not say we simply will not do anything about it because there may be some change in the meantime.

Mr. LILJENQUIST. Well, it is a point to consider, all right, but I think you will find, Mr. Poage, that as these new methods are adopted, are developed, and are used in the plants in this country, as they start to be used, that other packers will take them up, particularly those improvements where there is a financial advantage, and some of these improved methods undoubtedly will result in less bruising to animals.

Mr. POAGE. Don't you imagine that the Italian Lines right now would agree that it would be to their financial advantage to build bulkheads all the way up to the top in their ships, so they could not sink, and to apply the United States safety requirements? They just lost—what was it—\$10 million when they sunk the *Andrea Doria*, and it was their loss. They could probably have saved it if they had spent \$200,000 or \$300,000, but they did not save it, and there was not any law in Italy to require them to do it.

If it had been an American-flag ship, it would have had to have had those provisions. But they did not have to provide them. They lost, and they or their insurance companies are the ones that took the loss; we did not take it.

Don't you think now they would agree that it would probably be to their advantage to spend it? But the American ships have been forced to spend it. And you have not had any American ships sink, either, since the *Morro Castle*, have you?

Mr. LILJENQUIST. No. Now, Mr. Poage, I would say that our interest in humane slaughter is not far different from the organizations that are proposing compulsory legislation. We are interested in the subject, and we want our industry to use these methods, but we do not want any compulsory legislation which would force upon them impractical measures, and particularly those which may force small packers out of this industry.

Mr. POAGE. Would you just be willing to leave it up to the Secretary of Agriculture? Suppose we just passed a bill and said that you are to comply with the humane regulations prescribed from time to time by the Secretary of Agriculture?

Mr. LILJENQUIST. Well, now, Mr. Benson is a very humane man, I have no doubt about that. I would not want to leave this, however, up to the judgment of one individual. I presume you might provide for him to have guidance from several. However, our view is that let's concentrate some attention on developing these methods; let's have the methods before we think about making them compulsory, and after we have the methods—

Mr. POAGE. I think if we gave Mr. Benson that authority and imposed that duty on him, that it would speed him up in his determination of what is humane. I think it would speed it up by many, many years.

And I do not say that with any criticism of Mr. Benson. I think we would do the same thing if Bob Poage were Secretary of Agriculture. I think it just has that sort of effect.

Mr. LILJENQUIST. We have a great degree of economic concentration in the meat industry. We have 4 companies that do 50 percent of the business, and we have 10 companies that do 70 percent. And if you have a tremendous volume of hogs like Hormel, you can afford to put in a couple of hundred thousand dollars, or some other amount, to have equipment for immobilization of hogs. But if you are just a little packer having all the problems that beset a small-business man today, you may find that the imposition of just \$5,000 or \$6,000 might be something that you could not even do. It is conceivable—

Mr. POAGE. I think it is perfectly true that we cannot make the same requirements of some of your members that we could expect to make of some others. I think there is no question of that. But it does seem to me that you ought to devise some method, something that maybe would not be as acceptable as the gas chamber, that your people could—

Mr. LILJENQUIST. I feel sure, Mr. Congressman, that the very threat of possible compulsion in this field is going to spur our industry along to make our best efforts to solve this problem.

Mr. POAGE. Not if you are able to sink into repose on the assurance that we have a law here that says you can have the next 29 years to study it. By that time you will all be out of business and the next generation will be in, and no one will get very much concerned about it.

Mr. LILJENQUIST. Well, let's look at it for a couple of years and take a look—

Mr. POAGE. Would you be willing to confine it to 2 years? Now I think we are getting somewhere. If you would be willing to look at it for 2 years, and say 2 years hence this becomes mandatory—I do not think you ought to be compelled to put these things in tomorrow, because you cannot, of course. It would put you out of business. But let us talk about a reasonable time in which you can do it.

Mr. LILJENQUIST. Let's develop a 2-year program for research and see what methods can be developed in that period of time.

Mr. POAGE. Now, would you be willing to say at the end of the 2 years you should then be required to comply with the rules prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture as a result of his research?

Mr. LILJENQUIST. What I would say, Mr. Congressman, would be, let's in the next 2 years concentrate the attention of industry and Government on these humane methods. If we find them and they prove practical in some test plants, then let's give the industry a reasonable period of time to adopt them voluntarily.

Mr. POAGE. It has been 4 years since Hormel built their plant—

Mr. LILJENQUIST. All right, but they have never had a plant built for small pack.

Mr. POAGE. It has been 20 years since they built small plants in England—I believe 30 years. Now, they may have some bugs in them, they may not be applicable for a plant in Colorado, but on the other hand, I know that some kind of modification of those small operations can be made. But there has been no effort to adapt those plants that I can understand.

Mr. LILJENQUIST. Now, I think research is a field in which the Federal Government can legitimately operate. I think that they could develop a pilot plant for small operations.

Mr. POAGE. Well, research, of course, is just like God, home, and mother. Nobody likes to criticize it, but there are a lot of crimes committed in its name, nevertheless. It is just a blanket you put over your head and say that nothing is going on.

Mr. LILJENQUIST. We are not in a position in this industry to move forward on a compulsory program at our present level.

Mr. POAGE. Let's put a date on it at least. If you can agree with me now as to a date—and I will tell you frankly that I am not in favor of putting a date at next July 1; I know you cannot operate on anything of that kind. But what would be a reasonable date to make a compulsory program applicable?

Mr. LILJENQUIST. Well, as I said earlier, I would oppose as vigorously as I could a compulsory program based on our present knowledge of these methods. Until we can have some methods that we know will work, or are financially within the reach of small packers, let's have no compulsory program, but devote our attention on finding these methods, improved methods, through research.

And I think the Department of Agriculture should be asked and should be given some funds whereby they could put a task force on this problem.

Mr. POAGE. Didn't you ever belong to some kind of organization that referred every different problem to a committee?

Mr. LILJENQUIST. I was down in Texas 2 weeks ago and I heard someone say that if Moses had appointed a committee, the Jews would still be in Egypt. [Laughter.]

Mr. POAGE. Well, we are very much obliged to you, Mr. Liljenquist. I do not mean to make my questions particularly applicable to your organization. Certainly they are no more applicable to your group than to the others. Please understand that.

I would like, if I may, to ask Mr. Greenwald another question—if you do not object.

Mr. GREENWALD. No, sir.

Mr. POAGE. As a matter of information, what is the additional price on kosher meat? How do your prices compare with meat shipped in from New York by the big packing plants from Chicago?

Mr. GREENWALD. As opposed to what, as opposed to kosher meat?

Mr. POAGE. Yes.

Mr. GREENWALD. I do not feel qualified to answer that. I assume it is a few cents a pound, but I would not be enough of a technical expert on the market to know that.

Mr. POAGE. Who do you reckon we could get to give us that information? Is there anyone in this room who can tell us?

Mr. MYERS. Yes, sir.

Congressman POAGE. I am not going to say that on that I am a real expert and have statistics at my fingertips, but I did do some research into that and found that in New York City kosher meat sells at virtually the same price as chain store nonkosher meat.

Mr. POAGE. That is the impression I have been under.

Mr. GREENWALD. It does not work out that way, sir. It works out on the question of supply and demand as most other articles do.

For example, if the hindquarter market is down, the forequarter market goes up to average out the price. [Laughter.]

Mr. GREENWALD. During Lent, for example, when there is very little demand for nonkosher meat, the kosher price goes up. By the same token, if there is a terrific demand for kosher meat, the hindquarter price is obviously down. You very rarely get an even balance of the prices in the same position.

Mr. POAGE. Well, wouldn't you say that over the years, that your kosher meat brings 2 cents a pound more than nonkosher?

Mr. GREENWALD. It may. It may fluctuate within a penny or two.

Mr. POAGE. I think it is rather important for us to get some idea of how much economic loss is involved in following a particular method of slaughter. That was what this whole argument is about, what is the economic cost of slaughter.

Mr. MYERS. Congressman, if you can spare a minute, for that purpose and one other, I would like to—maybe it is presumptuous—I would like to explain something about the production of kosher meat, which I think is not widely understood, and probably not understood by the committee.

My principal point is that the greatest quantity of kosher meat is not produced by what most people think of as Jewish butchers. By far, the greater part of kosher meat sold in this country is produced by such firms as Armour or the Eskay plant up in Baltimore. And at the Eskay plant at Baltimore, which is one of the more commendable, well operated plants in this country, approximately 40 percent of all meat production is produced kosher, although obviously there is not, in the Baltimore market area of the Eskay Co., enough demand from the Jewish population to call for that production.

The reason for the excess production is twofold. One is that which has been stated by Mr. Greenwald, and the other is that the Eskay plant, in order to make sure that it has sufficient kosher production to meet fluctuations in the market, are quite deliberately produced as kosher meat beyond its reasonable expectation of demand. Because that which is not demanded by a kosher market can, nevertheless, be sold in a nonkosher market.

The fact is, then, because of this mass production of kosher meat in the usual packinghouse line, that there is no significant difference in the cost of the production. There is a difference where kosher meat is produced in a very small packing plant, doing only kosher production, but that is not because it is produced according to any particular ritual, but rather because of the economics of a small plant as contrasted with their large ones.

And if I may, I would like to add one more word—I do not know whether Mr. Greenwald goes often into the packing plants or to the killing floor, but he, as I recall it, said that it is required in the shehitah that the beef animal be turned with its shoulder on the floor, or words to that effect.

I have watched kosher production in large packing plants a very great deal, and I can assure Mr. Greenwald that many rabbis are approving, and many plants are producing, meat as kosher in which that is not at all the process. At the Eskay plant, for example, the process is that a perfectly conscious and active steer is shackled by a chain around one hind ankle, the shackling pin is opened on one side, and the steer is then hoisted while struggling to remain on his feet, and he hangs by one ankle, as much as a thousand pounds, before his throat is cut.

This is not at all as Mr. Greenwald described it. And I do not mean that he intended error, I mean only that not all packing plants are producing kosher meat as he has seen it.

MR. POAGE. Can you tell us if this Eskay plant has a different scale of prices for kosher meats and nonkosher meat?

MR. MYERS. In their wholesale market?

MR. POAGE. Yes.

MR. MYERS. No.

MR. POAGE. It is all the same price, is it?

MR. MYERS. Virtually, it is. There are differences in prices at times because, as Mr. Greenwald said, of relative fluctuations of the market. But there is no significant difference, and they have told me that for all practical purposes their pricing is identical.

MR. POAGE. Now, let me see if I am right on this, and I want Mr. Greenwald to check me, too.

I see there would be a difference, a time when there would be a difference, when the hindquarters would not sell as well. Therefore, to come out even, you would have to raise the price on the forequarters. What would the price on the forequarter be, the difference between that sold to the Jewish trade and that sold to the Christian trade?

MR. GREENWALD. Sir, if a plant did a good deal of kosher slaughtering, it would average out its cost. But if you were to kill a few steers, either all nonkosher or all kosher, your cost for kosher killing is naturally higher.

Mr. POAGE. Of course, I understand that. But you take a plant like this man mentioned in Baltimore, the Eskay plant, would they, as a practical matter, sell the forequarters at the same price, all of their forequarter meat at the same price daily, even if it is during Lent, or would they have two prices on the same cuts of meat?

Mr. GREENWALD. As far as we know, there has been a difference of price.

Mr. POAGE. Has not?

Mr. GREENWALD. There has been a difference of price.

Mr. POAGE. There has.

Mr. GREENWALD. There is a natural increased cost. Not only is this meat killed by a shohet, beyond that this meat is stabbed, a number of lead seals are applied on various parts, and this entails labor and material for which the price is added on to the cost of production, which is passed on to the retailer.

Now, a plant might, sir, take and spread its cost out over its entire production and not have a different price between kosher and non-kosher meat.

Mr. POAGE. As a matter of fact, would it add anything to its cost of the product, or would the packer cut it off of the producer's price?

Mr. GREENWALD. We have found that there is a price distinction between 2 stores buying the same meat if 1 bought kosher and 1 bought nonkosher, from the same producer.

Mr. POAGE. That is really the thing I wanted. Now, about how much is that?

Mr. GREENWALD. That, I would not say, sir. It might be 2 cents, it might be slightly more or slightly less. But there is a definite difference.

Mr. POAGE. Now, as to those costs, the rabbi who does that slaughtering must be paid some kind of a fee; how much does he get; a fee per head, or how is he paid?

Mr. GREENWALD. There are several methods. Either he is paid by the week or he is paid by the head.

Mr. POAGE. I see. The plant might just employ him as an employee?

Mr. GREENWALD. Yes, sir.

Mr. POAGE. Or might pay him by the head. About how much per head would they pay?

Mr. GREENWALD. I would not know, sir.

Mr. POAGE. Well, is it a substantial factor, or it is something—

Mr. GREENWALD. Well, it would be a substantial factor in a small producing company; it would be insignificant in one doing a larger job.

Mr. POAGE. It would not if it were, say, \$1 a head, it would not be insignificant at anybody's plant. If it were 10 cents a head, it would be insignificant in a small plant.

Mr. GREENWALD. The average plant has at least three people. It has the rabbi who does the supervising, it has the shohet who does the slaughtering and it has this person who affixes the tags. He is a plumberier. These are three separate and distinct functions. One, the shehitah attests that the particular carcass is kosher, and then the plumberier would attach the tags bearing the name of the rabbi attesting that this particular meat is kosher from that point on.

Now, of course, there is also an examination of the carcass. The mere fact of slaughtering kosher does not make the carcass kosher. In these plants two inspections take place, one from the Department of Agriculture and one from our religious authority who look for other things.

Some plants, for example, inflate the lungs. The slightest lesion on a lung would make that entire carcass nonkosher. And all these things are taken into consideration in fixing your cost of production.

Mr. POAGE. How much do you estimate they actually add to the cost?

Mr. GREENWALD. Your guess of 2 cents a pound might be more accurate than any I could hazard a guess on. I might assume that could be fair.

Mr. POAGE. We are very much obliged to you, because I had no idea whatsoever.

Is there anyone else to be heard today?

If not, the committee will, at a later date, hear Members of Congress who have not yet been heard, and will hear representatives of the Department of Agriculture.

And if there are individuals or organizations who have not had an opportunity to present their case, we will be glad to receive statements, written statements. There will be no further oral hearing other than, as I have set out, and that will be held at such time as we can conveniently work it in with the Department and the individual involved.

Yes, Mr. Myers?

Mr. MYERS. Mr. Poage, I have a question. Will proponents of the bill have an opportunity to offer written comment in rebuttal after you have had the further conference with the Department of Agriculture?

Mr. POAGE. I doubt it, because I am hopeful that we will move this thing along. I do not mean to preclude anybody, but just as the physical facts of life are, I hope that we may move along and get to actual consideration of the bill.

I do not want to set any deadline on anyone, but if you are too late, it will just be too late. We will receive any statements as long as it is practical to do so.

If there is nothing further, I want to thank all of you for the interest you have expressed in this and for your attendance. The committee will stand adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 4:55 p. m., the committee adjourned.)

HUMANE SLAUGHTER

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1957

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMODITY SUBCOMMITTEE OF LIVESTOCK AND FEED GRAINS
OF THE COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington, D. C.

The subcommittee met pursuant to notice, at 10:10 a. m., in room 1310, New House Office Building, Hon. W. R. Poage (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Poage (chairman of the subcommittee), Albert, Matthews, Burns, Hill, Hoeven, and Harvey.

Also present: Representatives McIntire, Morrison, Miller (of California), and Dawson.

John Heimbarger, counsel.

Mr. POAGE. The committee will please come to order.

We have here a statement of Senator Richard L. Neuberger that he wanted to testify on this bill, and it seems he has a conflict this morning, so he has sent a statement over here and asked that it be inserted in the record. Without objection, it will be so inserted.

(The statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF SENATOR RICHARD L. NEUBERGER, OF OREGON

I am appreciative of this opportunity to submit to the House Agriculture Committee a statement favoring H. R. 6509 which would require packing plants engaged in interstate commerce to use humane methods of killing animals. I believe that such legislation is long overdue. I believe that the overwhelming majority of Americans will applaud enactment of such a law.

The argument for humane slaughter legislation can be tellingly summarized in these three points:

1. Slaughter methods now almost universally used in American packing plants cause intense suffering and are grossly cruel.
2. Practical and economical methods of killing animals humanely are available.

3. It appears that the packing industry cannot or will not end the cruelty without legislation that will require all packers to act simultaneously.

I am deeply impressed by a statement on this subject by the General Federation of Women's Clubs, a federation of 15,000 organizations with more than 11 million members.

"All thoughtful persons recognize," the General Federation of Women's Clubs says, "that cruelty is an evil that should be eradicated from our society, not merely for the sake of animals but for our own good. We know that cruelty, whether to animals or to men, causes in the perpetrator a moral and cultural erosion that is harmful to the whole of society."

"Cruelty to animals in our slaughterhouses has been thus far permitted only because, it is argued, cruelty is cheaper than decency. The immorality of the argument is obvious."

Because I believe with the General Federation of Women's Clubs that cruelty is impermissible in a moral Nation, I urge support of H. R. 6509 even if enact-

ment would cause some monetary loss to packers, livestock producers, and consumers of meat. There can be no price tag on cruelty.

In urging support for this measure I do not want to appear dogmatic about the particular detailed provision of each section. The overall objective which I support is that of humane slaughter which is spelled out in the simple title of this bill. I would not be so brash as to say how the technical aspects of the bill should be phrased or implemented. That I am prepared to entrust to those who have the requisite knowledge, skill and experience in the technical phases of animal slaughter.

I sometimes think that a century or two hence our descendants on hearing of our accepted practices in slaughterhouses will look back upon the twentieth century with the same mingled feelings of dismay, abhorrence, and incredulity we experience on reading of convivial crowds at a public execution 200 years ago. It is the voices of the Humane Society of the United States, the American Humane Association and the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and many other similar groups who have awakened the American conscience to these contemporary cruelties. Traditionally the humanitarian measures that have one by one become our great body of social legislation have followed the voices of persistent protest which stirred to life a national conscience.

The tender attitudes of a generation conditioned by Beautiful Joe and Black Beauty and the tears shed over Ernest Thompson Seton's animal martyrs were in sharp contrast to their failure to hear the slaughterhouse squeals of pain.

We have taken for granted that the eighth amendment of our Constitution (VIII) prohibits infliction of cruel and unusual punishment upon our citizens. Today the national conscience is asking why we subject our animal friends to such cruel and inhumane treatment? These animals are not only our friends, but the foundation of our abundant agricultural economy. In my opinion, there is no reason why meatpackers cannot slaughter meat animals by humane methods. If the farmers of this Nation humanely treat their farm animals, throughout the period of their growth, and handle them to avoid injury and fear, why is it necessary to subject these animals to such primitive and cruel treatment for the few moments before they are killed and transformed into meat and meat products?

Mr. Chairman, I have talked with many of the men who work in slaughterhouses, both in my own State and elsewhere in the Nation. These men, so far as I have been able to observe, are among the strong and zealous opponents of some of the inhumane methods presently employed in slaughterhouses. They rebel against inflicting pain upon helpless animals, which form the meat products of the Nation and thus support the jobs on which these men are dependent. But the workers in slaughterhouses are not in control of those plants. They did not design the cruel front end of the production line. They cannot institute new methods of slaughter unless their employers so dictate and decide. Once or twice I have had members of the Butcher Workers' Union observe to me, "We realize that cruel ways of slaughter will only hurt the meat industry and promote vegetarianism among Americans. We believe that every possible humane method of killing should be used by slaughterhouses, just as soon as it is developed."

I have emphasized this point, Mr. Chairman, because it is my firm and definite opinion that the men working in our slaughterhouses are, in the main, among the foremost advocates of adopting every available humane device for cushioning and quelling any possible pain inflicted upon the animals, which are slaughtered to stock the tables and markets of America.

Listen to these words from a constituent who wrote just a few weeks ago:

"You have mentioned the cruel butchering methods in packingplants which I know to be true; but have you ever been in a turkey-killing plant? I can assure you that it is not a pretty sight. The turkeys are taken from the coops, hung on hooks by both feet and started head down on an endless track which takes them first to the sticker who has a long narrow blade, sharpened on the end, which he rams down their throats, cutting a blood vessel. Blood shooting from their mouths, their wings flapping wildly they roll on a few feet to the pickers who start pulling off their feathers long before they are dead. Many, many thousands of birds die this way every year to make Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for people who little know, or care less, how the birds suffered. Surely some humane way could be found to butcher these birds. Any move toward the humane treatment of dumb animals is all to the good."

A letter by Sam Taylor, of Troy, N. Y., to the Labor Press published in Portland, Oreg., presents a formidable statement in support of humane slaughter

legislation. With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would like to include this letter at this point in my report.

"To the Labor Press:

"I am writing you about humane slaughter.

"Two major packers, the George A. Hormel Co., who anesthetize hogs by passing them through a carbon dioxide tunnel, and the Oscar Mayer Co., who stun cattle with a captive-bolt pistol, and a few smaller packers are the only ones in this country who give a humane death, without suffering, to meat animals. Almost 7 million animals are killed every working day in our slaughterhouses and with the exception of those slaughtered by the above packers they all have a terrifying and cruel death.

"Knockers sometimes deliver a dozen blows with their heavy hammers before cattle are stunned into unconsciousness, often smashing their skulls and noses to a pulp and knocking out their eyes, causing absolutely unnecessary suffering and terror. They are shackled with heavy chains around a hind leg, which sometimes breaks the leg if it is a heavy animal like a hog; they are then hoisted into the air and their throats cut and they are left hanging there, suffering untold agony, to bleed to death.

"Sometimes hogs that haven't been struck properly and are therefore slower to die are thrown into steam vats while still conscious, and sometimes the feet of smaller animals are cut off before they lose consciousness and death releases them from their terrible suffering.

"Humane slaughter legislation would require that all livestock and poultry be rendered insensible by mechanical, chemical, or other means to be rapid, effective, and humane. Such legislation, when enforced, would save, the packers \$50 million annually, a loss they sustain through bruising and mutilating meat animals.

"All who would help should write to their Senators and Congressmen at Washington demanding that humane law be enacted to force all slaughterhouses to use some form of an anesthetic before each kill."

Do these painful methods of bludgeoning, shackling, and sticking of our livestock need to continue to be used in the United States? Are these archaic methods necessary in a country that has produced such magnificent technological advances and obtained such an opulent standard of living?

Cannot the engineers and scientists employed by the meatpacking industry develop humane methods for the slaughter of livestock? The answer is that a few of the progressive packers have developed and are using methods that are not only humane but have proved to be more efficient than those commonly employed.

The George A. Hormel Co. developed in 1953 anesthesia for hogs. Hogs are put under with a dose of carbon dioxide before being shackled and stuck. The Meat Inspection Division of the Department of Agriculture has approved this method.

In 1953, the Hormel Co. began experiments which have produced a technique which does away with the shackling of hogs.

Other progressive meatpackers have adopted humane techniques for the killing of cattle. The captive-bolt pistol has long been available to the industry. Yet only a small minority of packers have made use of this inexpensive method.

Many modern and humane killing methods have been developed and adopted by some progressive meatpackers which have lowered costs and provided higher profits to these meatpackers. These practices have reduced bruising losses, increased labor efficiency, reduced the danger to workers as well as providing a humane death to livestock. Yet the majority of meatpackers are reluctant to adopt these humane methods which are readily available to the industry. That the vast majority of meatpackers have not installed humane methods available to them at very low cost is the major reason why I feel that this legislation is needed.

Why is there opposition to this bill? I think that it has been ably demonstrated that the processes of humane killing developed and put into effect by the more progressive members of the meatpacking industry have reduced costs and increased dividends to stockholders of their firms. I am inclined to believe that the representatives of meat packers oppose this bill because of their habitual opposition to all Federal and State legislation which may in the slightest degree restrict their operations even though it may be of vital interest to the public welfare. Strange as it may seem, this is an old pattern of industrial reflex action.

The National Provisioner of March 1955 stated editorially: "During the next few years the meatpacking industry may face a controversy with which it will

be difficult to deal from the standpoints of logic and reason. It may be forced to talk aspects of its business from which understandably, it has shielded the public."

That editorial echoed the troubled conscience of a great industry. In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, it is my opinion that the meatpacking industry has been remiss in the development and adoption of humane methods of slaughtering the Nation's livestock. The meat inspection laws promulgated by the Department of Agriculture under laws passed by the Congress of the United States specify the necessary height of the rail in which animal carcasses move through slaughtering plants. We have also passed laws to prohibit the inhumane cruelty to animals on their way to market. I can see no reason why the Congress should not specify humane standards of killing livestock and poultry, in order to comply with the moral standards of decency and humaneness which are so much a part of the great heritage of the United States.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, allow me to offer two observations. First, over the past several years research study on this subject has provided demonstrable results on which legislation may be logically and soundly based. Second, the experience of the progressive and energetic minority among the packers who have introduced to the production line the new techniques required for humane methods of slaughter demonstrates its applicability in plants of any and all sizes. Adoption of humane methods should not be delayed by any requirement of a large capital outlay. I understand a captive-bolt pistol costs only \$120, the new Remington stunning instrument costs only \$200 and even the smallest packing plant can now put in a carbon dioxide tunnel that will process 60 hogs per hour for \$3,500.

Mr. Chairman, one would think that on the grounds of enlightened, humanitarian performance or on the more practical grounds of economy and efficiency of operation only support and affirmation would be heard in the plea for adoption of humane slaughter legislation.

MR. POAGE. Mr. Dawson, of Utah, has been present on several occasions to testify, and we have simply asked him to stand aside while we listen to those from more distant parts. I don't think there is anybody here from more distant parts than Utah this morning. Mr. Dawson, we will be delighted to hear from you.

STATEMENT OF HON. WILLIAM A. DAWSON, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF UTAH

MR. DAWSON. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my appreciation to the committee for the courtesy and consideration that they have given—not only the Members of Congress, but also the advisers from outside—on this matter, and particularly for the attitude which the chairman and other members of the committee have expressed. To me this is one of the biggest problems that is facing the country. To many people it doesn't seem big, but I believe to many millions of people in this country it is a real and a pressing problem and one that deserves the attention of this great committee.

When I was first approached on the subject of humane slaughter a year ago, I was reluctant to sponsor legislation compelling an industry to change its traditional method of operation. I felt then—as I feel now—that voluntary compliance to the laws of humane decency was preferable to compulsion. As a result, I determined I would not ask legislative action until I was thoroughly convinced there was no alternative.

Since that time, Mr. Chairman, I have made a personal investigation of present slaughtering techniques. I have also reviewed and studied hearings on similar legislation held by the Senate during the 84th Congress. This independent investigation has convinced me that legislation is the only solution. I am convinced that the packing in-

dust—with the exception of all too few progressive companies—is gripped by the inertia of tradition. That without legislation, I am convinced, cruel, wantonly cruel, practices against millions of animals will continue to be standard procedure.

I do not intend to go into lengthy descriptions of present methods of slaughter in general use in this Nation. But I think it is safe to say that not a Member of this committee or of Congress would condone these methods if they witnessed them being practiced on one dumb animal. I submit that corporate cruelty—if a ready alternative is available—is a fit subject for legislative action.

In requiring packinghouses to adopt humane slaughter methods, we are not forcing an industry into unexplored territory. Humane slaughter has been compulsory in Switzerland since 1874. England adopted a similar law in 1933. Other nations requiring humane slaughter are Norway, Netherlands, Scotland, Ireland, Finland, Sweden, New Zealand, and Denmark. In each of these countries, humane slaughter has proved itself to be economically feasible. But we need not go to Europe to find examples of how humane slaughtering techniques contribute not only to the moral well-being of packinghouse workers, but to the industry's economic well-being also.

Companies in the United States have found that the immobilization of hogs by carbon dioxide has saved more money in the reduction of damaged meat than was spent for the installation of the new equipment. Individual packers have adopted new captive-bolt pistols to replace the uncertain sledge as a means of stunning cattle before slaughter. All of these devices are available today at price that even the most modest of packers engaged in interstate commerce can easily afford.

For example, the captive-bolt pistol, already proved practical in about 20 American plants, costs only \$120. Cartridges cost less than 2½ cents per animal, and I believe a witness who testified here a few days ago testified that it was even less than 2½ cents per animal, if I remember his figures correctly, for the stunning devices.

Last year, the president of Seitz Packing Co., which uses the pistol instead of the hammer, testified that its use saved the company money. In England, the captive bolt-pistol has been proved effective in slaughtering hogs and smaller livestock.

In reviewing the hearings held on similar legislation by the Senate last year, I was struck by the fact that the witnesses for packinghouse industry agreed that present slaughtering techniques leave much to be desired. I was impressed and heartened by testimony to the effect that thousands of dollars had been spent by the industry in attempts to find improved slaughtering methods that were economically feasible. I am delighted to learn that the industry now recognizes that it cannot drag its feet; that the public is demanding a change.

All of this is encouraging. But I submit, Mr. Chairman, that there is no need for further study. The research necessary has already been done. The mechanical means for humane slaughter have already been developed. Let me add at this point that I am not impressed with the fact that the Department of Agriculture needs additional funds to permit it to make a further study. As a matter of fact, the Department has already been making studies of this prob-

lem, and it seems to me that the bills which have been presented to this committee and to the other body authorizing a study are totally unnecessary and simply being brought forth as a means of sidetracking the main investigation of this problem.

Last year, sponsors of this legislation presented figures on the cost of adopting humane slaughter methods. When asked to comment on these costs, which were modest indeed—the spokesman for the meat-packing industry said:

Accurate estimates of the cost of installation require a reasonable period of planning and study. To date, the industry generally has not prepared such careful estimates, and hence we do not have comprehensive figures indicating costs of installation. With what information we do have, however, the cost of installation can be appreciably more than the cost of equipment.

That was a statement of the packing industry.

I submit, Mr. Chairman, that that is a mighty weak answer from an industry that maintains that it has been spending considerable sums on research into this very subject for nearly 30 years.

Whether or not this legislation is approved this year—and I hope that it is—the packinghouse industry has now been put on notice. Let members of the industry recall their fight against the Federal Meat Inspection Act in the early part of this century. Let them reread the arguments they made to Congress against that law which grew out of public revulsion against the shoddy, unsanitary conditions that prevailed in a portion of their industry. It is to be fervently hoped that by reviewing their attitude then toward minimum sanitary laws—and comparing it with their attitude now against minimum humane slaughter proposals—that they will profit by experience.

An industry that contributes as much as theirs to our fine standard of living should be in the forefront of this fight to end cruelty.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, I would like to pay tribute to the many individual citizens whom I have had the pleasure of working with on this legislation. Opponents of this legislation have come to me and characterized these fine people as “sentimentalists and impractical dreamers.” To my mind, they belong with the other so-called sentimentalists and dreamers—the ones in the past who were so misguided as to believe that child labor could be abolished, or that madness was a subject for medicine not mockery. It is a distinct pleasure to work with them sponsoring this legislation to outlaw mass cruelty to dumb animals—a cruelty that is indefensible because it need not continue.

I urge the committee to vote approval of legislation that will silence forever the tortured screams and bellows in the slaughterhouses of this Nation.

Mr. POAGE. We are very much obliged to you for what I think is a very fine statement. We appreciate it.

Mr. DAWSON. I don't profess to be an expert on all these problems, but if the committee does have any questions that I might answer, I will be happy to oblige.

Mr. POAGE. Are there any question?

Mr. Dawson has just made a very fine statement with regard to this bill. Thank you, Mr. Dawson, we are very much obliged to you.

Now, we have Congressman Miller, of California, I believe.

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that I served on the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service with our distinguished colleague when I first came to Congress. I am happy to see him with us this morning.

Mr. MILLER. I may say, Mr. Chairman, I might have been senior to the distinguished Democratic whip on the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, but I have paid for that seniority since he has reached his present position.

Mr. POAGE. You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF HON. GEORGE P. MILLER, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE EIGHTH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. MILLER. I am Congressman George P. Miller, of the Eighth District of California.

Mr. Chairman, I haven't a prepared statement. I regret that I haven't one. I want to subscribe fully to what my colleague from Utah just told you, and anything that I think I could say or prepare would be duplication of what he has so well said because the arguments are very few, but they are very potent in this case.

We are living in the 20th century. It is time that we change some of the methods that have been in existence since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary and bring them into harmony with the conditions in the 20th century.

I am conscious of the fact that the desire for this legislation goes far beyond that of some of the people who have been most active in pressing it. A member of one of the unions in the stockyards in San Francisco called me up while I was home and told me of their problems, and how hard it was to keep men, to get men to perform certain of the tasks that they had to perform; that it was time that changes be made.

Let me remind you that the gentleman from Utah spoke of sentimentalists and dreamers. Well, 180 years ago it was the sentimentalists and dreamers that established the form of government under which we live and of which we are so proud, and maybe we need the sentimentalists and dreamers at an age when we become rather material.

So I have nothing that I can contribute beyond that which you know, other than to say that I am sincerely for this type of legislation. I think that it is long overdue. I think that the savings that will come out of the improved methods of slaughter will more than justify the minimum expense that will be necessary to put it into effect, and that we are entering an age where all of our foodstuffs must be saved and preserved, and that the economies behind the bill are just as sound as the sentiment that is behind it.

Mr. POAGE. I wonder if you could give us a little information about the situation on the west coast because it happens to be the one section of the country where this committee, as far as I know, has never observed any of the slaughtering of meats?

Mr. MILLER. I am not too familiar with them. All that I know is that I have had people in the industry around San Francisco—that it, people who work in the industry—voluntarily come to me and complain.

For instance, there is one technique—and, frankly, I have never seen it. I have never cared to go look at it. I am not a sadist type—where they have to shackle the legs of hogs, put a chain on them, before they are hoisted up, right before they are slaughtered.

Mr. POAGE. That is a common practice throughout the United States. That is what is known as the wheel.

Mr. MILLER. It is a very common practice.

Mr. POAGE. I think that is the cruelest of all of the slaughtering practices.

Mr. MILLER. The man who had done this told me that among the workmen themselves it is the one job that they all dreaded, that they all did not like, that they all tried to get out of, and the people who do that and who are engaged in this are a good deal like the old Irish woman, you know, the fisherwife who used to skin the eels, and somebody said, "Aren't you ashamed? Look at the pain you cause these poor fish when you skin them." She said, "Don't worry about that. They get used to it by and by."

The people who work in those kinds of jobs get used to it after awhile, but even after awhile it gets a little bit too much for them.

Mr. POAGE. We have had the presentations by the packinghouse workers in favor of the improvement of these slaughtering conditions, and I am sure that feeling is shared in many parts of the country. I don't know whether you have any unique practices on the west coast.

Mr. MILLER. I don't imagine there are any unique practices. I tell you I have never been around the industry too much because I remember as a young man, I was a civil engineer, and one of our jobs one time we had to run some lines very near to a packinghouse in the neighboring town to where I lived then. My fellow rodman and I—we were both juniors—saw some of the practices that were taking place, and he swore that thereafter he was going to be a vegetarian. I don't know whether he ever lived up to it or not, but he was so disgusted with what he saw that he said from there on out he would take an oath he would never eat any more meat and he would become a vegetarian. Maybe that is the way with me. I am afraid to go near them too much.

Mr. POAGE. Mr. Hill.

Mr. HILL. Congressman Miller, I am glad to see you at this meeting, and I know we all appreciate the fine work you are doing in the House and the way you represent your constituents on the west coast.

I would like to ask this question for my own information. If you have studied this bill, what effect will this bill have on the small packinghouse operator that just operates in a community and kills both poultry and livestock and cattle and hogs, chiefly in our area, especially for local people for their iceboxes.

Now, he should be controlled, too. Some of those little yards at home sometimes are not inspected and they are not kept in the kind of shape that you and I would like to have them. What do you do about that in your own area?

Mr. MILLER. In my own area I don't know that there are any, but in the adjacent districts there are some slaughterers. In my own area I am not conscious of any. There may be 1 or 2 small slaughterers, but if there are they are so small I am not conscious of them, but I would like to say this: I base my statement on this premise that

whether an animal is being killed by Swift & Co. or whether it is being killed by Joe Smith, who runs the small plant right outside of the small town, that animal is subject to the same pain and the same hysteria when it goes to be slaughtered.

Now, there are lots of ways. In my own work with the fish and game we knew that killing game by bow and arrow was perhaps the most humane way of doing it. When you shoot a deer, you might mutilate bones and cripple it or shoot it right through the belly—the usual term among hunters is to gut-shoot it—where the deer would be in great pain; whereas if you could succeed in putting an arrow through it, it would eventually bleed to death and bleed without a great deal of pain. It goes off into a coma.

So these things—and I don't pretend, Mr. Hill, to know too much about the details of slaughtering or the details of this bill, nor have I cared to perhaps study it too much. I put the bill in because I believe that something should be done along these lines. I believe that the time is long past where it should have been done, and I think that if the slaughterers of this country begin to know that Congress is taking a look at it, the very fact you are holding this hearing today, whether this bill ever becomes law, will drive some of them into perhaps reexamining their position, and we will make some progress. That doesn't mean I don't want to see the bill go out of the committee with a favorable report, but I think that is the way we make progress in this country.

Mr. HILL. If I understand you then correctly you say all slaughtering—and I am not sure you are not correct—should come under this bill?

Mr. MILLER. I don't see where you can have a little bit of sin. If it is bad for one it is bad for all.

Mr. POAGE. May I interject right there this committee has no jurisdiction over what States do in intrastate commerce, and we can get ourselves involved in an interminable discussion of what the State of California or Texas should do, a matter over which we have no more authority than over what is done in Canada. The committee is going to stay on the subject of interstate commerce over which we do have jurisdiction and responsibility.

Mr. MILLER. I do know, Mr. Poage, because I have some friends who are in the wholesale meat business, that the standards set by the Federal Government eventually become the standards set by the States. For instance, you can't sell meat to the Federal Government although it may be slaughtered and dressed and consumed in any one State unless you comply with the regulations of the Department of Agriculture and have Federal inspection or the equivalent of Federal inspection.

Now, the law in that respect has a lot of weaknesses in it, as you know. I know a slaughterer or wholesale meatman who can't sell meat for consumption by enlisted men of the armed services because his plant can't pass Federal inspection. This is intrastate now, but he does sell steaks—

Mr. POAGE. I don't know, Mr. Miller, but I wonder if we can't stay on the subject of the bill.

Mr. MILLER. You introduced the thing. I am trying to point out the effect that this has on intrastate operations. This man can sell

meat to the officers' club. Now, in order to broaden his base he has had to go in and enlarge his plant, because he realizes he can do more and better business if he meets the high standards, and I think substantially, Mr. Chairman, as long as you were raising the question of staying on it, I have tried to illustrate and tell you this in illustration, that if we do it on the Federal level, I think we will eventually force it on the State level. That is why I am interested in seeing the bill passed.

Mr. POAGE. Are there any further questions?

If not, thank you very much, Congressman Miller.

We have here another author of the bill. I am glad to hear from you, Mr. Hiestand.

STATEMENT OF HON. EDGAR W. HIESTAND, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM CALIFORNIA

Mr. HIESTAND. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My name is E. W. Hiestand, Member of Congress from California. I appear before you with perhaps a little different point of view than you may have heard yet.

My bill, H. R. 3049, has been reintroduced at this session with modifications into it which I can go into a little later. My purpose in introducing the bill, however, gentlemen, may be different from most people's. I have, as most of us do, a feeling for animals, a feeling against unnecessary and barbaric brutality, and all that sort of thing, but a number of years ago, long before I ever thought of running for Congress, there occurred an incident which shocked me over a lot of years, and maybe some of you recall it.

When a circus was in winter quarters, a giant gorilla, about 300 pounds, broke through or got out of its cage and got into the cage adjoining—of a giant puma. There ensued a life and death struggle. Because of the large investment in each of the animals the circus did not stop that fight until it had gone on for some 8 hours, each of the giant animals tearing the other one to pieces, and, of course, it was a shocking thing.

Finally, at the time one of the gorilla's arms was torn off, they finally put a bullet into one of the animals, but the fact of that thing being allowed to go on for 8 hours, I didn't get over for some time. It seemed just a shock to sensibilities.

Now, we read a lot of articles about the 90 million hogs and the 90 million lambs and the 20 million beef cattle killed by inhumane methods, and these articles are causing a shock to human sensibilities. People have written every member of this committee and to me and all of us about their shock on this thing, and, gentlemen, I take the position that that shock to human sensibilities is not good. It is not good for the American people. It doesn't exist in a number of other countries, as you gentlemen know. That was the purpose in putting in the bill.

We can do it legally, because, as the chairman has just expressed, it is in interstate traffic and the bill provides very much the same provisions that other bills do, except that in this year's bill I have taken out the matter of an advisory board. I see no reason for that. It should be, in my judgment, entirely in the hands of the Secretary. He can make his rules. In the final paragraph it has a certain flexibility

which will allow him to make an exception so that it won't be any undue hardship.

The modern methods for killing, for which you have had plenty of evidence, the captive bolt and the carbon dioxide chamber, those things are all well known to you gentlemen, and I believe that we have a bill here that is simplicity itself and could be approved.

I just wanted to voice my opinion of perhaps a little different and a little bit added reason why we should take action of this kind. I could go on at some length, but you have had all of the evidence, I am sure.

Mr. POAGE. We are glad to have you with us and present your views. Are there any questions by any of the members?

If there are no questions, we are very much obliged for both your interest in the bill and for presenting your reasons.

Mr. HESTAND. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. POAGE. Are there any other authors?

Congresswoman Martha Griffiths is, of course, the author of the first of these bills, and she has a statement she wanted to insert. She couldn't be here. Without objection, it will be inserted as part of the record.

(The statement is as follows:)

STATEMENT OF CONGRESSWOMAN MARTHA W. GRIFFITHS, FROM MICHIGAN

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Martha W. Griffiths and I have the privilege of representing the 17th District of Michigan in the House of Representatives.

Let me first express my sincere appreciation to you for holding these hearings and for giving me the opportunity to present my views in support of H. R. 176 on humane slaughter. These hearings represent a tremendous gain for humane-minded people all over the country, and I am confident that this first step in the legislative process will lead to favorable action on this proposal by the Congress.

Support of this legislation is increasing daily.

Mine was the first bill on the subject ever to be introduced in the House of Representatives and the interest it has created in almost every part of the Nation has been amazing.

WHY COMPULSORY HUMANE SLAUGHTER LEGISLATION IS NEEDED

Over 30 years ago there was a strong movement throughout the civilized nations of the world for the institution of humane methods of slaughter. As a result of this movement the Netherlands, Norway, Scotland, Ireland, England, and parts of France, Germany, and Austria and other foreign nations enacted compulsory humane slaughter legislation. In the United States the meatpacking industry agreed to voluntarily institute humane methods of slaughter. In 1929 the American Meat Institute, the trade, research, and educational association of the meatpacking industry set up a special committee to develop improved methods of slaughter which would—

First, be considered more humane than present practice.

Second, be practical and economical in regular plant operations.

The efforts of the industry as a whole throughout the years indicate little or no real effort to solve the problems of developing improved methods of humane slaughter. Only in isolated plants has real progress or substantial results been achieved.

It appears obvious that the meatpacking industry has not chosen to proceed aggressively and conscientiously to voluntarily institute humane methods of slaughter and having had over 25 years in which to do so I believe one can assume that they never will institute such methods voluntarily.

Legislation in this area is certainly long overdue. Daily, we attempt to lead nations in matters of foreign affairs, often emphasizing and stressing the fact that we are a nation guided by humane principles. Such reasoning must ap-

pear hollow to people who long ago recognized the need for compulsory humane slaughter legislation and did something about it.

ECONOMIC FACTORS

(1) *Reduction in accident rate*

Besides the humaneness of the thing, a compelling reason for modernizing slaughtering methods is the fact that accidents would be drastically reduced. The various humane methods—carbon dioxide or other gas, the captive-bolt pistol and others would materially reduce the hazards present in our plants.

The latest figures of the Department of Labor show that accidents occur at almost double the rate in slaughterhouses as for all industrial activity combined. The average accident rate for all manufacturing in 1955 was 12.1 per million man-hours worked. For slaughterhouses the rate was 18.9 per million man-hours worked.

Preliminary figures from the Department for 1956 show a significant increase in the accident rate in slaughterhouses. For 1956 the accident rate jumped to 19.1 (first 9 months) per million hours while the average for manufacturing was 12.1 (first 9 months).

Here is a table setting forth these statistics for quick reference:

Accident rates per million man-hours

Year	General manufacturing	Slaughterhouses (includes slaughtering and dressing only, not processing)
1953.....	13.4	20.0
1954.....	11.9	19.4
1955.....	12.1	18.9
1956 ¹	12.1	19.1

¹ Estimates by Department of Labor for 1st 9 months of 1956.

These safety figures should not be construed as an adverse reflection on the industry or labor unions involved. Both labor and management are credited with making a continuous strong effort to reduce accidents but it should be emphasized that present methods of slaughter are hazardous and I submit the introduction of humane methods—whereby immobile, unconscious animals are substituted for kicking, screaming animals—would materially contribute to a reduction in packinghouse accidents. Lost man-hours, injury, and medical expenses are of benefit to none. Humane slaughtering methods can reduce this unnecessary economic loss.

(2) *Reduction in bruised and damaged meat*

Apart from the compelling considerations to accord humane treatment to the animals involved, the use of humane techniques in slaughtering could have important and beneficial economic consequences for the meatpacking industry. Perhaps the most important would be the reduction in bruised and damaged meat. It is presently estimated that as much as \$50 million worth of meat is rendered unsalable annually because of damage coincident with the slaughtering process. This loss could be reduced substantially if humane methods were employed. An unconscious animal is easy to work with, presents no problem in the subsequent killing process, and thus the prospect of loss in dressing is reduced to an important degree.

Secondly, it should be noted that meatpacking companies would be entitled to the generous depreciation rate of the Internal Revenue Code in charging off the cost of new installations necessary to accomplish humane slaughtering.

Under the 1954 Revenue Act this depreciation can be accomplished at twice the rate previously allowed.

Enactment of this legislation requiring new installations would not place the packing industry in any less favorable position than other industries which are subject to legislation and regulation. All public carriers, for example, are obliged to maintain safety devices called for in law. These costs are a part of doing business.

The same circumstances would obtain for the packing industry under the proposed legislation. Furthermore the legislation gives the industry a voice in the final determination of the new methods to be used. There would be no arbitrary decision involved or enforced.

HUMANE SLAUGHTERING METHODS AND COSTS

One of the most frequently voiced objections to this legislation is the statement that advocates of humane methods do not agree on a specific technique to be used. This is certainly not a valid argument. The legislation would establish in law the fact that a humane system of slaughtering shall be practiced in those humane slaughtering plants whose products move in interstate commerce. The legislation reserves to the industry and the Secretary of Agriculture the right to determine the best humane method to be employed. Different animals present different slaughtering problems, and it is proper that the law allow flexibility to meet every need.

While it is difficult to estimate the total cost of converting the packing industry to humane methods, some useful data is available.

The captive-bolt pistol and the new Remington stunning instrument cost less than \$200. The electric stunning equipment is relatively inexpensive.

But perhaps the most significant advance in humane slaughtering in this country was the perfection of an immobilizing unit for hogs which is now in operation at the Austin, Minn., plant of the George A. Hormel Co. This method using carbon monoxide gas to render the hog unconscious before sticking was pioneered by Hormel engineers and has been in successful operation 3 years on a commercial scale.

Mr. L. W. Murphy of the Hormel Co. service division spoke before the American Meat Institute in 1952 and pointed out that the above method has the complete approval of the Department of Agriculture and he made these other significant observations:

"We are sure the method can be applied to other packinghouse livestock. * * * the hog was presented to the sticker so that he could operate at arm's length, accurately, safely, unhurried, and with cleanliness to himself."

Mr. Murphy pointed out with emphasis that the Hormel Co. has effected substantial savings in operating costs and has brought about improved working conditions. Mr. Murphy concludes:

"They alone (these savings) more than compensate us the cost of our years of research."

Incidentally, it might be noted that this company has reaped immeasurable benefits in good will because of this forward step.

This installation is concrete proof that humane methods can be combined successfully with practical business considerations. Several other smaller packing concerns have also adopted humane methods in recent years. These installations would seem to demolish the contention that it cannot be done.

The idea of protecting our animals from unnecessary pain and suffering is certainly not new and unique. It is, indeed, interesting to note that man at one time sought and received statutory protection for his animals before the same protection was given to human beings. In 1866 the first anticruelty legislation was passed in the United States. This legislation made cruelty to animals—such as the man beating his horse on the street—punishable by fine and imprisonment. At this time there were no statutory laws to prevent cruelty to children. Parents and guardians in the United States had the legal right, under the common law, to treat their children as they saw fit. The only deterrent to vicious and cruel treatment of children was a moral obligation not to do so.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was constantly besieged with cases of cruel treatment to children but the laws at the time provided no remedy for such actions. Then one day the case of Mary Ellen was brought to the attention of Henry Bergh, a leader in the anticruelty movement. This little girl was daily the victim of viciously cruel treatment by her guardians. They kept her chained to a bedpost, dressed only in a thin and dirty chemise, unchained her only to do housework, and punished her regularly with a big leather whip and with fierce prods of scissors. Mr. Bergh could stand it no longer.

He went to the State legislature and got the 1866 act—an act better to prevent cruelty to animals, amended—so that in 1874 it prohibited acts of cruelty to "every living creature"—and in November of 1874 the courts declared this to include children and thereby the Mary Ellens were given statutory protection

against cruel and inhumane treatment. Soon specific legislation to prevent cruelty to children was enacted, and a society to prevent cruelty to children established.

In closing let me say that progress in any field has not come easily or willingly on the part of those persons, groups, or business interests affected. But when it can be demonstrated—as indeed the weight of evidence does in humane slaughtering—that a beneficiary result will be obtained for all concerned, we cannot, in good conscience, delay this legislation any longer.

It is my earnest hope that humane slaughter legislation will be acted upon favorably during this session of Congress. I am certain that you will find an overwhelming majority of our people in agreement.

MR. POAGE. Now, are there any other authors of bills?

If there are no more, we have asked Dr. Clarkson to come back and be with us this morning.

Dr. Clarkson, we appreciate your coming back down to supplement your previous statement.

STATEMENT OF DR. M. R. CLARKSON, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE; ACCOMPANIED BY DR. A. R. MILLER, DIRECTOR, MEAT INSPECTION DIVISION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DR. CLARKSON. Mr. Chairman, I am glad of the opportunity to make a few additional comments.

I am M. R. Clarkson, Deputy Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service, and I have with me Dr. A. R. Miller, Director of the Meat Inspection Division.

In our previous statement we expressed the Department's support of H. R. 5820 and opposition to House bills 176, 2880, 3029, 3049, 5671, and 6422. The hearings have focused attention on several points that should be mentioned in relation to the Department's position on these bills.

The bills containing mandatory requirements for the adoption of certain methods of slaughter determined to be humane would apply not only to those slaughterers regularly engaged in the slaughtering of livestock and poultry for the sale of meat, meat products, poultry, and poultry products in interstate and foreign commerce, but also to those slaughterers whose distribution of products is strictly local, but who are regularly engaged in purchasing livestock or poultry in interstate or foreign commerce for purposes for slaughter. The latter group handle by far the smaller number of livestock and poultry. However, since they are, for the most part, the smaller operators, they outnumber those who sell products in interstate commerce by 2 or 3 times.

Of the nearly 5,000 slaughterers believed to be covered by this legislation, it is estimated that 3,600 would be buying on markets that include livestock and poultry moving in commerce, but whose distribution of products would be strictly local, within the State of origin. Accordingly, these latter slaughterers would not come within the jurisdiction of the Federal Government in enforcing such laws as the Meat Inspection Act and the pending poultry products inspection legislation.

To extend the Federal supervision to these plants would constitute a considerable extension of the enforcement powers of the Department

into areas where local jurisdictions are usually applied. The Department does not believe that the Federal authority should be superimposed upon such local control or substituted for it.

The Department can best serve the interests of the public in the humane handling of livestock and poultry, whether such handling involves interstate or local slaughterers, by devoting its resources to identifying and developing those methods that give full consideration to humane principles and to working for the adoption of those methods found to be effective and humane. Although the Department has worked for many years with industry and humane groups to facilitate the development and adoption of improved methods, the effect of enactment of H. R. 5820 would be to place the Department in a new position of leadership and responsibility, with a clear mandate from the Congress to utilize its resources in the accomplishment of the purposes of the bill. This would not be a static program aimed only at evaluating facilities and methods currently suggested, but would be a continuing growth of effort with the compulsion of congressional action, public opinion, organized humane groups, and the ingenuity of State and Federal scientists to stimulate the work. As in all efforts of this kind, the development and testing of current ideas would stimulate new ideas.

The several modifications of the captive-bolt idea that have been described are in varying degrees of development in the slaughtering plants to work out the kinds of practical difficulties that always accompany such developments. The ideas are good and our observations indicate that fully practicable devices will be perfected and widely distributed in the plants.

The CO₂ method of immobilizing hogs before slaughter has been found practicable in several plants. Observations of its use appear to show advantages from the standpoint of labor requirements. But really, no one, to our knowledge, has authoritatively evaluated the effects of this procedure from the standpoint of humane treatment of the animal. As far as one can observe the animal entering and leaving the device, it appears acceptable. We hope it is humane, but we do not know. Research is needed to supply the answer.

The electrical method of stunning animals has been discussed extensively and has been widely advocated. Competent observers have expressed the opinion that the spasms accompanying the electrical stunning may not in all cases be immediately accompanied by unconsciousness. They have pointed out that while the desired result might accompany the use of a proper balance of voltage and time, in the practical application of the method by packinghouse workers this fine balance may not always be acceptable.

In many cases of electrical stunning undesirable hemorrhaging occurs in the muscular portion of the carcass. From the standpoint of inspection the hemorrhaging that occurs in the carcass and internal organs causes confusion. These confusing marks can be distinguished from evidences of disease, but this takes additional time in each case to be sure. Our inspection procedures are geared to the high-speed operations of American plants and we must take the position that the intrusion of artificially induced situations which create uncertainties in the inspection system must be avoided.

The Department sincerely believes that the enactment of H. R. 5820 would provide an orderly and effective approach to this problem, and

that it would enable the Department to take its proper place in the total programming of the humane handling of animals. It will be recalled that H. R. 5820 deals not only with the question of rendering animals insensible before slaughter, but also with the full problem of the development and use of improved methods for the humane handling and transporting of livestock and poultry.

A lack of authoritative information has hampered local humane interests from moving forward in this field. H. R. 5820 would provide the means for obtaining such information while leaving local people in control of its application.

Mr. POAGE. Dr. Clarkson, what authority does H. R. 5820 give you that you don't now have?

Dr. CLARKSON. Mr. Chairman, it would give us specific authority that we now have in general language.

Mr. POAGE. Then if you wanted to do this, you could do it now, couldn't you?

Dr. CLARKSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. POAGE. Then I don't see where we need the Dorn bill.

Dr. CLARKSON. I think there is a very important point there, Mr. Chairman. Working with humane methods of handling livestock has only been a part of our research and other programs dealing with management, nutrition, feeding, transport. The humane aspects have always been a part of it, but we have never engaged in programs of research of any magnitude whatever aimed directly at the purpose of developing better methods of humane handling, and the passage of this legislation would put the Department in that position of responsibility in that field.

Mr. POAGE. To tell you that you must carry on a program that you could have carried on but didn't?

Dr. CLARKSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. POAGE. It seems to me that leaves us about where we have been for a long, long time. Of course, I know that you don't accept the evidence that there is such a thing—I mean, you don't say that you know that there is such a thing as humane slaughtering. I don't suppose anybody else knows either. Unfortunately not many men or animals come back after they have been slaughtered, so there isn't much evidence about what the effect of certain practices actually is. We have a great deal of opinion about that, and I suppose we always will, and I suppose it is on that theory that the animal can't come back and report his sensations that you say that you can't say that any of these methods are humane. Is that about what you come to?

Dr. CLARKSON. Well, Mr. Chairman, we say that through painstaking research we think that criteria can be developed that will give an authoritative answer to those questions, but as it stands right now, we do not have those authoritative answers.

Mr. POAGE. I don't know how you could ever get them by the test you have already set up. You say there is considerable doubt about whether the gas chamber method on hogs actually results in humane slaughtering or not.

At least one thing we know, regardless of what we know about the effect of the gas chamber, regardless of what we know about the death of the hogs, we know that it don't break their legs and bring them up out of a screaming mass of other hogs, and we know that it doesn't carry them along for a long period of time on a wheel, and we

don't think that it bleeds them to death while perfectly conscious. We know we don't do those things with a gas chamber.

We don't know what the feeling is when the hog inhales that carbon dioxide gas. We know what it is with human beings because I have inhaled it, and you have, and many others have, and so we assume it affects the hogs somewhat like it does a human being in that respect, but I don't suppose we will ever know just how we affect these animals because they can't talk to us and tell us. We only have to correlate our human experience with a rather comparable situation for the animal and having done so, we at least seem to have a reasonable assumption—or at least a probability—on which we can work. It is possible we will never have that exact scientific proof that you demand, but we do have scientific proof that we are not breaking their legs, that we are not creating the terror which wheels creates, that we are not dragging a fully conscious animal through a long process as that wheel does at present. We know those things, don't we?

Dr. CLARKSON. Oh, yes.

Mr. POAGE. It seems to me we would have to assume, it seems to me even your scientific mind would have to assume, that the Hormel method is an improvement from the humane standpoint on the old wheel that is used in most of the large packinghouses.

Dr. CLARKSON. The aspects which eliminate the shackling of the live hog are obviously an improvement, Mr. Poage.

Mr. POAGE. I should think so.

Then I think we should be in the position to go ahead on some regulations which are obviously an improvement, while we do the other study. I don't suggest for a moment you ought to stop dead and say, we will never learn anything from the moment this bill is passed on. I think we will, but why shouldn't we prescribe some regulations now on the basis of what is obvious and then try to solve the things that are not obvious, rather than say we will do nothing until we sit back and get all of the answers.

You don't have all of the answers in your sanitary work, do you? You don't know exactly what heat does, and you don't know just exactly what the presence of certain bodies does toward the deterioration of meat, do you?

Dr. CLARKSON. Obviously, as in all human endeavors we change as improvements are made.

Mr. POAGE. We didn't wait until you had all of the answers before we prescribed sanitary regulations, because we haven't got them all now. It seems to me what we are being asked here to do is sit back and say we must wait until we know all of the answers and when we have got them, we are going to pass some legislation, but we are not going to act on anything until we have got all of the answers. Isn't that what H. R. 5820 does?

Dr. CLARKSON. I can't agree that is what it does, Mr. Chairman. The point of the mandatory legislation is primarily that animals be rendered insensible by some method approved by the Secretary before they are bled, such as in the use of the CO₂ gas involved in the rendering of the animals insensitive.

The matter of whether or not they are hung is also contained in those bills, but the primary point is to prescribe methods by Department action that would say how they are to be made insensi-

ble, and with the present stage of our knowledge I don't see how we could say that subjection of an animal to CO₂ gas is any more humane than the use of the knife with its quick thrust. It comes down to that really.

Mr. POAGE. The use of the knife where?

Dr. CLARKSON. With the quick thrust of the knife; whether that is any more painful than the use of CO₂ gas or causes any more apprehension and terror on the part of the animal is something we don't know.

Mr. POAGE. Most of the bills accept the proposition that if you use the knife for the purpose of killing the animal that that is fine. You can accept that as a humane method. The method of the Jewish rabbis, all of these bills agreed to accept that, as I understand it, as a humane method. Where you attempt merely to stick a knife in the conscious animal and let him bleed to death, it seems to me that is another thing, too.

Dr. CLARKSON. In the ritualistic method of slaughtering beef, it is a matter of cutting his throat and letting him bleed to death. In the current methods of killing cattle it is a matter of sticking the animal so that the main arteries of the animal's body are quickly severed and it very quickly bleeds to death.

Mr. POAGE. That is true of cattle, but, again to get back to hogs, there is no effort to kill hogs, is there?

Dr. CLARKSON. I beg your pardon?

Mr. POAGE. The ordinary packinghouse doesn't attempt to kill a hog with a knife does it? It attempts to let him bleed to death. It attempts to stick him so he won't die from the knife but rather that he will bleed to death. Isn't that what the ordinary packinghouse does today?

Dr. CLARKSON. It is exactly the same proposition, that the severing of the great blood vessels will cause an immediate outrush of blood so that consciousness is lost very soon although the animal's heart continues to beat, and the animal's muscular reactions continue, and the blood is thereby forced out of the body. Exactly the same thing happens in the ritualistic method, and I would assume from this legislation that is regarded as a humane method. That was the reason I was making this point. Then we would be called upon to determine whether those methods are humane, whether they are as humane as the application of CO₂ gas, or whether they are as humane as the application of electricity which causes tremendous electrical spasms. Most people think that results in immediate unconsciousness. There is enough doubt expressed by people in Europe who have worked with it to cause one to wonder.

We know that a slight misapplication of the voltage and current will cause such tremendous spasms as to actually break the animal's back. We do know that all of those things have to be taken into consideration.

There are research proposals that have been discussed with the University of Minnesota. There are some that have been discussed with the University of Oklahoma that we think might lead to a method of determining whether or not the animal feels pain during these obvious physical contortions or whether it does not, and that, of course, is the point of this whole matter. The contortions are

of no meaning if it is like the chicken that has its head cut off, but still jumps all over the yard. Obviously there is no sensibility in such an animal. No one knows with the meat animals whether there is sensibility after the application of these methods, but still the Secretary would be in the position of saying you must use this method rather than that method.

MR. ALBERT. I would like, first of all, to see if we can get to any area of agreement.

Now, on the matter of including stockyards that buy on the intrastate market, would you be for the bill if we excluded those and limited it only to those who sell on the interstate market?

DR. CLARKSON. No, sir; we do not. We believe that our position ought to be one of determining authoritatively the facts in this situation and then with the encouragement and leadership which we must assume under the passage of any legislation by the Congress to facilitate the accomplishment in the plants of the use of improved methods.

MR. ALBERT. But you would recommend, if the committee decides to report the bill, that it limit its jurisdiction?

DR. CLARKSON. No, sir; I would not recommend that. I was merely pointing that out. It is up to the Congress as to how far they want this to extend, and as has already been brought out in conversation here, humane handling in an intrastate plant is just the same as inhumane handling in an interstate plant, and this would bring in the Federal power in reference to livestock that has moved in commerce. I have no preference on that, but I merely wanted to point it out.

MR. ALBERT. You have pointed out objections to the electrical stunning of animals. Would you be for the bill if that method of stunning animals were eliminated?

DR. CLARKSON. The bills do not mention, or perhaps some of them do mention, electrical method.

MR. ALBERT. You specifically hold that to be an inhumane method until you decide by scientific research that it is humane, if I understand you correctly. Again, what I am getting at is, can we reach any grounds on which we can agree on a bill? We have had a lot of testimony here on the effect on people of the squeeling of hogs and the activities of animals as they go through long slaughter lines. Would you be in favor of at least going far enough now to make it possible for men to work in these plants without having such shock to their sensibilities? Would you go that far now?

DR. CLARKSON. You are talking about enforcement legislation?

MR. ALBERT. Yes.

DR. CLARKSON. I do not believe so, Mr. Albert. We must take notice of the fact that the humane handling of livestock has been developed in this country over the years as a local proposition. A great deal has been done and accomplished. I have seen a great deal accomplished in this same packing industry that comes in for so much criticism here.

I readily admit and would hope that there can be improvement at a great deal faster rate than has been the case in the past in this very act of slaughtering. The personal ingenuity of those who have worked on these methods has shown the way. The public appeal that has come to the Congress in this regard has shown that they want

some leadership in this field. We have felt that we should not heretofore engage in extensive programs of research aimed at methods of humane slaughter. Now we feel we should if the Congress so says.

Mr. ALBERT. Let me ask you this: Would you favor a simple bill that would abolish the shackle and wheel and sticking of hogs as they go through a long process that causes a lot of squealing and excitement on the part of the animals; would you favor that?

Dr. CLARKSON. Well, I would have to think about that. Obviously to eliminate that wheel is one of the objectives. Whether to do it by congressional compulsion is the right way is really the question.

Mr. ALBERT. That, of course, is a question for Congress.

I have been under carbon dioxide and felt no pain. Of course I don't know whether the scientific world knows whether that is true of every other human being in the world or not. I don't know whether it is true of every other animal in the world or not, but if we operated on the basis of not being able to make progress except on a scientific determination of such things we would never have abolished the whipping post because there might never be a scientific way of finding out what the effect of such punishment was on human beings in the long run. The Department apparently wants only a study bill, which I would be willing to support along with one of these other bills.

Mr. HARRISON. Will the chairman yield?

Do I understand that one of the problems here is how are you going to meet your requirements of this legislation in defining what is humane and what is not? Is there a definition in these bills which defines humane? I don't recall.

Mr. ALBERT. There is no definition.

Mr. McINTIRE. Upon whom rests the responsibility?

Mr. ALBERT. The Secretary of Agriculture would have the responsibility.

Mr. McINTIRE. But isn't the Department through Dr. Clarkson pointing out some of the problems, and I think quite appropriately, that he is pointing up some of the problems which the legislation places on the Department. I think we are facing up to an administrative problem here, which is the position of the Department.

Mr. ALBERT. I don't think the Department is any less likely to know what is obviously inhumane than anyone else. The question which I have put here regarding the shackling of hogs and putting them on a large wheel that turns over and carries them through a long line is *prima facie* inhumane. I don't think anybody needs any help in determining that that process is brutal and that it goes on in American stockyards and only in American stockyards among the great humane nations in the world.

Mr. McINTIRE. Would the gentleman yield?

Again, I don't think the problem is in the extremities of practice. I think the problem is the responsibility of defining the practice and drawing the line as to the requirements.

Mr. ALBERT. We will leave that to the Secretary of Agriculture insofar as it is necessary.

Do you think we should abolish the pure food and drug laws, because they haven't figured out exactly what contamination is in all instances?

Mr. McINTIRE. Absolutely not, but I do want to raise the point.

Mr. ALBERT. What is the difference?

Mr. McINTIRE. I think that there is a problem here and the Department has appropriately brought it to the attention of the committee that there is a problem of definition here which we are placing on the Department of Agriculture and that problem is a very real one under this legislation.

Mr. ALBERT. I was trying to get down to particulars in the most basic form possible in suggesting the elimination of one type of slaughter, whether or not there was any question about that being humane, and we got no answer from the Department on that proposition. That is all.

Mr. HARRISON. Might I ask, will you yield, sir?

Mr. ALBERT. I yield, sir.

Mr. HARRISON. Dr. Clarkson, is there more research going on at the present time with reference to this CO₂ work, and is there some movement on the part of packers to use this more at the present time now? We do know, because we have observed in some of the packing-houses, and particularly Hormel, there are packers adopting that same method, and are they reluctant to, and if so, why?

Dr. CLARKSON. There is a great deal of interest in it. There are several packers that have active plans, and there are a large number that are discussing with the suppliers and checking with the present operators. They like the labor saving effects of it. They like the elimination of the wheel. They like the quietness with which the thing moves along. They have to consider the total effect on their plants. They are wondering what is going to be the result of congressional consideration of legislation, whether under the legislation that it would be or would not be an approved method of slaughter, whether it would have to be changed after they have put it in. I think that they are trying to learn and are improving their methods of handling the CO₂ gas so they don't get too much or too little. Too little leads to a good deal of excitement and the animal coming out of unconsciousness before it is stuck. Too much can result in death of the animal, in cyanosis and practical suffocation, and of course, both have to be avoided.

Mr. HARRISON. Do you think that the packers were of the opinion that just because of the humaneness of the CO₂ that they would take that method and adopt it without legislation? Am I to understand correctly that the Hormel people think it is economical to use the particular method over the old method, and because of the economy and because of the humane aspects that there would be that tendency for all packers to adopt that same method?

Dr. CLARKSON. A great deal has been said about the need to make these various methods economical and practical and a great deal has been said in favor of the practicalities and economies of the CO₂ method. We would predict that once the air is settled that there will be a very considerable movement toward the use of CO₂.

Mr. HARRISON. Do you have any indication that that movement is on at the present time, or are they just waiting to see what is going to happen here?

Dr. CLARKSON. We know of quite a few packers who are actively considering the installations with their architects.

Mr. HARRISON. Do you think it is necessary that we have legislation, if that were declared to be the humane method, to see that all of the packers adopt it?

Dr. CLARKSON. I think that if it were shown that this is a humane method that we would in a short period of time have a very great adoption of it through the plants.

Mr. HARRISON. Do you think legislation would be necessary in order to bring that about?

Dr. CLARKSON. I don't think legislation is necessary or appropriate; mandatory legislation, I mean. I think legislation which would settle the question and which would give the Department the responsibility of working these things out through research and the responsibility to determine authoritatively whether a method is or is not regarded as being humane in the opinion of the Government would have a great effect.

Mr. HARRISON. Has this same CO₂ method been applied or tried in the case of cattle the same as it has with hogs, and if so, what has been the result?

Dr. CLARKSON. There have been individual animals subjected to CO₂ from time to time, and we have during the past few months subjected some to CO₂. It is a long way from being worked out from the practical standpoint.

Mr. HARRISON. That is, it doesn't seem to offer a solution?

Dr. CLARKSON. Not in the current state of our knowledge anyway. I wouldn't say that it does not for the future. It might very well be the preferred method. I have no way of guessing at it.

Mr. POAGE. Mr. Hill wanted to ask a question.

Mr. HILL. Just one question, Dr. Clarkson. With the fine type and kind of veterinarian hospitals you have developed clear across these United States, you aren't going to give the committee the impression that you don't know how to render an animal unconscious? The second thing is this, we have one of them in our own town, and I have seen them operate on dogs and cats, and I know full well the cat had no feeling when it was operated on or the dog either. Now, my question: If we should figure out through the brains and ability of this subcommittee a time limit during which you might come to a definite conclusion about your investigation as to how to render these animals unconscious when we were going to butcher them, how much time would you need in the light of the investigation and the information you already have? It shouldn't take too long. Now, what would be your estimate of when you could be ready to say here is the way to kill these animals and put them to sleep for good? I think you can do that before too long a time. What is your estimate?

Dr. CLARKSON. Mr. Hill, we would estimate that in a couple of years of effort we could make a great deal of progress in this area. This is like any other area of study, however, that as you make progress you develop lines toward more progress, and I would hate to see us make this static so that a certain method which is developed within a certain time or which is now developed must then be the method that is used from here on. I think one of the witnesses that was before the committee the other day mentioned that that had turned out to be a difficulty in one of the foreign countries where a certain method was prescribed, and now it is found they would like to change that method, and they are having to go through their legislative body. No doubt they will get it done, but it is one of the difficulties with making it static according to the current information.

Under H. R. 5820, the Department is compelled to report back to the Congress, and that report should contain not only information as to what has been accomplished, the successes as well as the failures of study and the successes and failures of implementation in the plants, but also with recommendations for the future.

Mr. HOEVEN. Dr. Clarkson, is H. R. 5820 a Department bill?

Dr. CLARKSON. No, sir; it was put in by Congressman Dorn. He did call me on the phone and asked if we could supply language and we did so.

Mr. HOEVEN. He did not introduce the bill at your request?

Dr. CLARKSON. No, sir; it was a drafting service.

Mr. HOEVEN. As I understand it, the Department hesitates to define what is humane slaughter; is that the rub?

Dr. CLARKSON. That is part of the rub, and the other is that we are recommending against the Department getting into this new broad field of enforcement which is to supersede the local enforcement agencies.

Mr. HOEVEN. If the Congress assumes the responsibility of what defining humane slaughter is, would you be satisfied?

Dr. CLARKSON. If I understand what you mean, if the Congress passes a bill which says that—

Mr. HOEVEN. That humane slaughter is so and so.

Dr. CLARKSON. And that such a method must be used, we will enforce that bill to the best of our ability to enforce it.

Mr. HOEVEN. H. R. 3049, page 3 reads as follows: "That the term humane method of slaughtering shall mean either of the following," and then it lists A, B, and so forth. Do you object to such provisions?

Dr. CLARKSON. Yes, sir.

Mr. HOEVEN. What is the objection?

Dr. CLARKSON. If I follow you, you would amend this language.

Mr. HOEVEN. That is right.

Dr. CLARKSON. And you would say certain methods are humane and must be used.

Mr. HOEVEN. We might possibly include those enumerated in the bill. There might be other items included.

Dr. CLARKSON. Obviously, as you mentioned awhile ago, the Congress would be taking the responsibility for saying what is humane, and we would enforce it to the best of our ability.

Mr. HOEVEN. And you would prefer to have the Congress define what is humane slaughtering rather than have the Department decide?

Dr. CLARKSON. Under the current situation I don't know that it is a preference, Mr. Hoeven. We just think that it can hardly be done accurately.

Mr. HOEVEN. If Congress assumes that responsibility and defines it, then the Department, of course, will enforce whatever law is enacted.

Dr. CLARKSON. Obviously, that relieves the Department.

Mr. ALBERT. Of course, you don't want, and we don't either, for us to do something and call it humane when it isn't.

Mr. HOEVEN. I asked Dr. Clarkson specifically whether there was any objection to incorporating those provisions into the definition of humane slaughtering.

Mr. ALBERT. He said he wasn't sure that was humane, if I understood him right.

Mr. HOEVEN. Someone must determine the definition. If it isn't the Congress or the Department, who is going to determine it?

Mr. HILL. Now, there are things we know are not humane. I can think of one and that is the picking of turkeys as a small boy. Now, you know why they picked them the way they did. They said the shock of sticking a knife through the upper brain of the turkey and picking it as it is kicking, you shock all of the feathers loose. Once in a while the turkey fell down, and the turkey went around three-quarters or half picked alive. I don't suppose they do that any more, but that was ordinary custom years gone by, and that is a typical example of what we are trying to cure, I think, here.

Mr. POAGE. I am told that they use in a great many poultry plants now some kind of process whereby they drive a pin in at a certain portion of the brain and it causes the feathers to come off.

Mr. HILL. It doesn't cause them to come off. It unsets them.

Mr. POAGE. It unsets them, I should say, rather than come off.

Do they use any of that?

Dr. CLARKSON. I think what you have reference to is a so-called electrical knife.

Mr. POAGE. But they don't sever the head, as I understand it?

Dr. CLARKSON. No, sir.

Mr. POAGE. Is that supposed to help them pick the feathers?

Dr. CLARKSON. It is supposed to be a rapid and effective method of either killing or rendering the bird insensible.

Mr. POAGE. Does that loosen the feathers?

Dr. CLARKSON. And to ease or unset the feathers, as you suggest. What the bird's reactions are, I don't know.

Mr. BURNS. Isn't it a fact that in preserving the meat, the fact that meat has to go in the cooler and be cooled in water afterwards, you don't want the head severed because of the effect of the water getting into the inner part of the animal spoils the meat? Its preserving qualities are destroyed, isn't that right?

Dr. CLARKSON. I can't directly answer that Mr. Burns. There are practices of that kind. Just what the purposes are, I don't know.

Mr. ALBERT. We don't.

Mr. POAGE. It is against the law in the State of Texas to put birds in water. We think it is about the most filthy method of sending fowl to the market that has ever been devised. It is against the law to put them in water as a cooling agent from the State standpoint.

Are there any further questions of Dr. Clarkson?

If not, we are very much obligated to you, Dr. Clarkson, and I believe that that concludes all of those that we have promised to hear on this bill. We haven't overlooked anybody, have we?

If there is anyone that does care to file an additional statement at the present time, we will be glad to receive them.

If there is anybody who cares to file a statement even as late as this morning, we will be glad to receive them. If there are, please leave them with the clerk before we leave. If there is not, the committee is going to go into executive session.

Mr. FRED MYERS. We would only like you to remember that the European countries who are using the humane way could be copied so easily. That in itself is proof that it works very well.

Mrs. MARY McCORD THRASHER. Of course, you are familiar with the fact that many other countries have methods of humane slaughter of varying types.

Mr. POAGE. We can't open up and go into another hearing, because we simply don't have the time, but we will be glad to receive any statements that anybody wants to file this morning. We want to get this record in and completed and try to take some action as quickly as possible.

The committee will now go into executive session. We appreciate the attendance of all of our advisers.

(Whereupon, at 11:20 a. m., the subcommittee went into executive session.)

(The following statement of Mr. Aaberg and additional data have been submitted to the subcommittee:)

STATEMENT OF HERMAN C. AABERG, PRESIDENT OF LIVESTOCK CONSERVATION, INC.,
CHICAGO, ILL.

Livestock Conservation, Inc., is a national nonprofit educational and research organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois. Its principal office is located in Chicago with regional offices at Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, and South St. Paul.

The purpose of Livestock Conservation, Inc., is to promote practical and proper methods of livestock management pertaining to losses which reduce the economic value of livestock, meat, milk, and related items. To achieve this goal Livestock Conservation, Inc., through its national and regional staff and through its active committees develops and carries out effective national programs for improved livestock handling and the control and prevention of those diseases and parasites which cause economic losses to the livestock industry.

The overall committee setup includes:

1. Strong national committees of each segment of the entire livestock industry from producer to processor, coordinated by having each committee chairman make up the program committee of the organization.

2. Regional committees directing the local area program of each regional office.

3. Action committees in States, at markets, in processing plants to direct State, market, and processing plant livestock loss prevention programs.

This work is participated in and supported by every segment of the livestock industry including service and allied organizations. The list of members supporting Livestock Conservation, Inc., embraces several hundred individuals, corporations, and associations of livestock producers and feeders, both rail and motor carriers of livestock, livestock marketing agencies, livestock order buyers, livestock markets, livestock processors, livestock insurance companies, banks, veterinarians, feed manufacturers and dealers, milk companies, equipment companies, merchants, farm and livestock publications, pharmaceutical companies, humane and animal protective associations, and others.

The organizations and individuals which comprise the membership of Livestock Conservation, Inc., represent close to 90 percent of the production of meat animals in the United States; a majority of the milk production of the United States; and approximately 80 percent of the federally inspected slaughter of meat animals.

In addition Livestock Conservation, Inc., has the active support of and participation in its program of numerous public and quasi-public educational and research organizations including several branches of the United States Department of Agriculture; that part of the United States Department of Health, Welfare, and Education supervising vocational agriculture instruction and the United States Public Health Service; the Future Farmers of America; the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Clubs Work; the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities; the United States Livestock Sanitary Association; the American Veterinary Medical Association; the American Medical Association; virtually all State experiment stations, agricultural colleges, and extension services; many State departments of agriculture, and others.

An affiliated and integral part of Livestock Conservation, Inc., is the National Brucellosis Committee, which has spearheaded the current accelerated program for eradication of this dread disease.

The scope of the program of Livestock Conservation, Inc., is well outlined in the attached program leaflet, *More Meat and Milk* (submitted as exhibit H), adopted shortly after the organization of Livestock Conservation, Inc., in 1951 as a merger of the National Livestock Sanitary Committee and the National Livestock Loss Prevention Board, both of which organizations dated back to the early twenties. This program was prepared by a committee headed by Dean H. H. Kildee, of Iowa State College, now retired. Although changing times have shifted the emphasis somewhat from quantity to quality and efficiency the general objectives of the organization remain unchanged.

The methods of organizing and carrying out this program are outlined in five task force leaflets (exhibits B, C, D, E, and F). These are essentially being followed today in the work of carrying out the objectives of the organization, both in the active programs now underway and those being currently developed.

Some idea of the scope of the work and how it reaches into all segments of the livestock industry can be gleaned from the summary of the proceedings of the 1957 annual meeting of Livestock Conservation, Inc., as reported in the National Provisioner for February 1957 (submitted as exhibit G). Here you will see evidence of the concern of all branches of the livestock industry and related interests in livestock safety, health, and welfare.

Livestock Conservation's interest is both humane and economic: Humane because safe handling of livestock is simply good animal husbandry; economic because mishandling of livestock, whether due to rough handling or through failure to use methods of preventing and controlling livestock diseases and parasites is costly to every segment of the industry from producer to consumer.

Handling losses, although important, are but a relatively small part of the huge livestock loss total from all causes. This is partly because livestock producers, carriers, and handlers have an innate sense of appreciation of the fact that they are handling live animals and that living things should not be abused; and partly because the economic loss is more readily seen and appreciated in cases of mishandling than are the insidious attacks of parasites and disease. This is borne out by the livestock loss estimate contained in the Livestock Conservation Handbook published last year for the 4-H and FFA members carrying livestock projects.

Certainly more work is being carried on under the general sponsorship of Livestock Conservation, Inc., and its cooperating agencies in the field of handling livestock than in the field of parasite and disease control and prevention. The chief reason for this, as mentioned above, is that livestock people above all are human beings and are motivated by humanitarian instincts as well as by economic considerations.

There is but one conclusion that can be drawn from this recital of the work in livestock loss prevention, which is sponsored nationally by Livestock Conservation, Inc., and that is that the good old American tradition of self-help is here manifesting itself in its finest form. Through this nonprofit, public service, educational and research organization the entire livestock industry has mobilized and financed itself to tackle a common problem—the reduction of livestock losses. Government help is only sought and requested to further research programs and to carry the ways and means of preventing losses to all the industry through its educational areas—the extension service and the schools.

Losses that may occur during slaughter are being tackled in the same way as other livestock losses—through the active development of educational and research programs of those interests directly concerned with these problems. All of them are actively participating in the overall program of Livestock Conservation, Inc., on all livestock losses, including the losses that may occur immediately before, during and after slaughter.

We in Livestock Conservation, Inc., believe that humane slaughter, like other phases of our program, is just good animal husbandry. We do not feel that this problem has been thoroughly explored and that we have all the answers as to humane methods. Our experience makes it very clear that not enough information is available on what is really humane in slaughtering processes.

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF JOHN C. MACFARLANE, DIRECTOR OF THE LIVESTOCK
CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY FOR THE PRE-
VENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

I, John C. Macfarlane, director of the Livestock Conservation Department of the Massachusetts SPCA, 180 Longwood Avenue, Boston, and as a citizen of the United States, respect the privileges guaranteed to all religious beliefs under our Constitution and Bill of Rights. I don't believe any attempt should ever be made to abridge these rights and privileges. However, as a Christian, the cutting of the throat of a living conscious animal at best is abhorrent and such procedures should not be termed a humane method of slaughter.

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENTS BY THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

The Humane Society of the United States submits supplementary comment on pending humane slaughter legislation, dealing with these points:

1. Religious ritual slaughter;
2. Provisions for a committee to advise the Secretary of Agriculture.

1. RELIGIOUS RITUAL SLAUGHTER

This society specifically recognizes the right of followers of any religion to practice the rites of their faith. We oppose any formulation that could possibly be construed as an invidious reflection on any religion. We do not believe the author of any of the pending bills intended any such reflection but, to prevent any chance of an undesirable inference, we recommend the language with which protection for religious rites has been provided in H. R. 3029, H. R. 5671, H. R. 6509, and H. R. 6422.

It should be carefully noted that no act in the handling of an animal prior to actual slaughter is a part of the ritual of slaughter in any religion. It is possible, therefore, to protect animals against cruelty in shackling, hoisting, or casting without impairing the freedom of any religion.

Section 2 (b) of H. R. 3029, and similar provisions of some other bills, would provide that much needed elimination of some of the worst cruelties of the packinghouse killing floors. In this respect, H. R. 176 and similar bills are deficient.

If any humane slaughter law is enacted, it should include the full protection for animals that is offered by sec. 2 (b) of H. R. 3029 and the other bills enumerated in the third paragraph of this memorandum.

2. COMMITTEE TO ADVISE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

We do not recommend legislative creation of a committee or commission to advise the Secretary of Agriculture, as proposed in various forms by H. R. 176, H. R. 6422, and some other bills. We prefer the form of legislation envisioned in H. R. 3029.

An advisory committee may, we think, be a cumbersome instrument in the administration of the proposed act. It is not suggested in any pending bill that an advisory committee have actual power to determine what methods of slaughter are humane; the proposed function is merely advisory. We suggest that the Secretary of Agriculture is free to seek advice without empowering legislation and that the Secretary might feel more uninhibited in seeking advice from a variety of sources if the law does not, at least by implication, limit him to seeking advice from a select list of groups or persons.

If an advisory committee is to be created by law, however, we favor the language and substance of section 4 of H. R. 6509.

In a hearing held by the Livestock and Feed Grains Subcommittee on April 12, Dr. M. R. Clarkson, speaking for the Department of Agriculture, opposed enactment of legislation that would make adoption of humane slaughter methods compulsory.

As several Congressmen remarked during the hearing, Dr. Clarkson's objection to such legislation seemed to stem chiefly from a doubt about whether carbon dioxide and electrical currents, used as anaesthetizing or stunning agents, are genuinely humane. Dr. Clarkson argued that the Secretary of Agriculture

might find it difficult to certify these methods as "rapid, effective, and humane" without further study.

We wish to call these three points to the attention of the Congress:

1. There is conclusive scientific evidence that both carbon dioxide and electric currents are humane when appropriately used for the intended purpose;

2. In any event, other methods of making animals insensible to pain are available and neither Dr. Clarkson nor any other witness has questioned the fact that they are humane;

3. Further, every pending bill on this subject provides a waiting period of at least 2 years before any packer must comply with the law and in this period the Department of Agriculture surely could determine what methods of stunning or anaesthetizing animals could be certified as humane by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Representative Poage commented, during the hearing of April 12, that not many men or animals "come back" from any such experience as is undergone by animals put through a packinghouse carbon dioxide tunnel or subjected to electrical stunning before being shackled and bled. Congressman Poage was making a pertinent point and making it tellingly, but it is important to note that tens of thousands of human beings have undergone carbon dioxide anaesthetization and have experienced anaesthetic electric shock in treatment for mental illness. They have "come back" to tell about it. And the universal testimony is that both carbon dioxide and electricity, so used, are painless.

The Congress may wish to know that humane societies, both here and abroad, financed scientific studies of these problems before legislation of this kind ever was proposed.

For example, the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, a British organization whose membership is restricted to members of the faculties and undergraduate bodies of British universities, sponsored a comprehensive investigation of electric stunning of animals. The study made use of electrocardiograph and electroencephalograph techniques to determine precisely when an animal ceased all response to pain stimuli. The findings, widely publicized, supported all earlier evidence that electric stunning is humane.

In this country, both the Humane Society of the United States and the Animal Welfare Institute have financed other studies, conducted by the Veterinary College of Michigan State University. It is significant that Michigan State University, following these studies, has itself adopted electricity as the method of humanely stunning animals that are slaughtered by the Veterinary College for university dining halls.

We suggest that the Congress may safely rely, in this matter, upon studies that have satisfied the responsible and reputable humane societies of the whole world.

CHICAGO, ILL., May 1, 1957.

CHAIRMAN,

*Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives,
New House Office Building, Washington, D. C.*

(Attention: Mrs. Mabel Downey (Clerk)):

In view of testimony presented during hearings humane slaughter legislation attempting to discredit professional competency of veterinarians employed by USDA, the board of governors of the American Veterinary Medical Association considers any method of slaughter unacceptable when it creates tissue changes resulting in uncertainties in the proper disposition of meat food products. Electrical stunning of swine cannot be recommended for these reasons. Our association emphatically favors humane slaughter by any improved method that is found to be practical and does not jeopardize the determination of wholesomeness of products intended for human consumption. We urge the enactment of H. R. 5820 as an important step in reaching this objective.

H. E. KINGMAN, D. V. M.,
American Veterinary Medical Association.

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